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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

I. CHINA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
II. EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
III. SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
IV. EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged
V. NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include: Middle East & South Asia Review Inter-Arab Affairs Islamic Affairs Palestinian Affairs OPEC Affairs South Asian Regional Affairs Arab Africa Algeria Chad Egypt Libya Mauritania Morocco Sudan Tunisia Western Sahara Arabian Peninsula Bahrain Kuwait Oman PDRY Qatar Saudi Arabia United Arab Emirates Yemen Arab Republic Iraq Israel Jordan Lebanon Syria South Asia Afghanistan Bangladesh India Iran Maldives Nepal & Bhutan Pakistan Sri Lanka
VI. LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged

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U.S. 'CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE INITIATIVE' ASSAILED

PM070907 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[L. Semeyko article: "Pentagon's 'Threesome'; Washington Organizing New Round of Arms Race" -- Passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] Washington continues to spew forth a stream of "defense initiatives." The "strategic" initiative has been followed -- not without the participation of certain NATO allies -- by the "European" initiative, and quite recently by the "conventional" initiative. Whereas a great deal has already been said about SDI and a few things have been said about Euro-SDI -- That is, the plans to create a combined anti-air and antimissile shield for Western Europe -- the Conventional Defense Initiative [CDI] is still clearly a novelty for many people. Therefore we will turn immediately to its essence: It is a question of a program for the large-scale modernization of conventional (that is, nonnuclear) U.S. arms and the introduction of state-of-the-art technical achievements into the arsenal of warplanes, tanks, artillery, and so forth.

"The Conventional Defense Initiative is an effort in this direction," Weinberger has stated. "The initiative makes it possible to use the (NATO) alliance's technical superiority to eradicate important gaps and shortcomings in our conventional force potential." In other words, it is by all accounts a question of an urgent change of course toward a qualitative conventional arms race.

The following questions arise: Why for the umpteenth time has the United States brought the concept of the accelerated modernization of conventional forces to the forefront? Why are they being particularly stressed now in particular, after Reykjavik? The answers to these questions will clearly have to be sought in the attempts to play "U.S.-style" on the relationship between nuclear and conventional arms, and between these arms and space arms. To play on it in such a way as to compensate for the arms race being reversed in one of its directions (while the chance still exists!) by taking an immediate leap forward in another direction, and ultimately to prevent real disarmament.

For both the USSR and the United States, Reykjavik marked a movement toward new landmarks in approaches to nuclear disarmament. There can no longer be a return to previous recipes. But after the meeting in the Icelandic capital it became obvious that the United States wanted not only to retain a substantial proportion of its nuclear potential by the end of the century, but also to combine it with the active buildup of its nonuclear potential and the creation of a space-based ABM system.

Making the Western public accept this "threesome" was not so simple. That is why the United States, with the support of the allies, is seeking an appropriately "flexible" argument. They are attempting to persuade the public that, due to the possible drop in the level of nuclear confrontation or even the possible elimination of nuclear weapons, the importance of the correlation between the sides' conventional forces has grown considerably. And this correlation, they claim, does not favor NATO. Hence the need for the urgent implementation of all the "initiatives" -- CDI, Euro-SDI, and, of course, SDI.

The philosophy behind this presentation is full of contradictions, since it is founded on old-fashioned militarist thinking and, moreover, on distorted realities.

/First./ U.S. leaders and their NATO comrades in arms claim that Western security must rest on the "curbing" [sderzhivaniye] (or more accurately "deterrence" [ustrasheniye] of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact Organization not only with nuclear weapons, but with conventional weapons, too. The East, they say, has "superiority" in the might of its conventional forces and conventional arms. "The deterrence [sderzhivaniye] effect," Pentagon men argue, is lost when the Warsaw Pact Organization has an approximate "twofold" advantage in tanks and warplanes, and a "threefold" advantage in artillery, infantry combat vehicles, and so forth. We will go on to examine these figures -- they are groundless. Now let us turn to another of Weinberger's statements: Despite these advantages, he stated in Congress, "we consider it unlikely that the Soviets will conclude that their advantages are sufficient to attain their military-political goals in the time they would need." But if that is so, why get alarmed and hatch a dangerous multibillion-dollar race under the CDI banner?

Such a race is really dangerous. If current conventional arms were used in a war the consequences would be truly catastrophic. According to West Germany's Bundeswehr, for instance, a 20-day "conventional" war in Europe would be equivalent in terms of its destructive consequences to a 5-day war using tactical nuclear weapons. So why increase manyfold the probability of the catastrophic consequences of a conventional war through a qualitative arms race at a time -- and this is the main thing -- when, even the Pentagon admits, there is little likelihood of "Soviet aggression"? There is no logic to it.

/Second./ Weiberger cites "appalling" figures about the balance of conventional forces, but in so doing falls into another trap of logic. "The conclusion about the effectiveness of our deterrent potential," he stated, "will be made by our enemies, not by us." (We, of course, are the main "enemy.") Let us look at the essence of what he said: The way that U.S. combat potential in relation to the balance of the sides' armed forces is ultimately assessed will allegedly depend on the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union recognizes that military-strategic equilibrium exists between these forces. Consequently, Weinberger should seemingly be reassured about his own "deterrent potential," all the more so since our assessment of the balance of forces is soundly based. Equilibrium was arrived at by taking account of a number of factors, including numbers of arms. Certain arms -- artillery, for instance -- are held in virtually identical numbers by the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO; the Warsaw Pact has more of certain arms while NATO has more of others, but on the whole the combat potential of the sides' armed forces groupings is approximately equal. Being "startled" about certain individual advantages on either side and basing a policy on them would be simply dishonest. But, objectively speaking, it is possible to play the "numbers game" -- trying to prove the socialist countries; "superiority" in conventional arms -- until the cows come home. That is why the USSR is proposing a new approach. This is how M.S. Gorbachev put it: "Let us look at all this in a new way: Let the West make relevant cuts in those arms which it has more of, and we will unhesitatingly eliminate the 'surplus' in those areas where we have more arms. In other words: Let us seek a balance at a reduced level."

However, Washington failed to react to this appeal. It does not favor cutting mutual "surpluses," but instead advocates building up its own so as to obtain military advantage. "The program to modernize our nonnuclear potential," Weinberger claims, "allows us to use our technical achievements in order to derive the greatest advantage from them."

/Third./ Weinberger also contradicts himself in his approach to the relationship between nuclear and conventional arms. On the one hand, he stated in JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY that the United States "should maintain a strong (!) nuclear potential which will continue to be the most important means of preventing a conventional attack." [paragraph continues]

While on the other hand he stated, admittedly in Congress, that "since the Soviet Union has acquired a nuclear potential that is at least as formidable as ours, confidence in retaliatory nuclear strikes for preventing a nonnuclear attack has been undermined."

Excuse me, but this is a clear case of sleight of hand. How can "retaliatory" nuclear strikes prevent a nonnuclear attack?! It is also meaningless because, if, according to Weinberger, confidence in the ability to use nuclear weapons has been "undermined," why retain them? Why pin hope on them? Would it not be better for both sides to cut down the terrible "surpluses" in their military potentials, as the Soviet Union urges?

The Pentagon leader arrived at a different conclusion. He favors modernizing strategic and regional nuclear potential (the corresponding plans now include turning Pershing 2's into shorter-range missiles -- just so long as they can be left in Europe). He advocates expediting the SDI program. He advocates starting to develop [razrabotka] a West European ABM system. Finally, the Pentagon chief advocates CDI -- the creation [sozdaniye] of conventional weapons models and systems, which, one can assume, with the help of "new-potential technology" would surpass current cluster weapons, "vacuum bombs," and phosphorus munitions in terms of their destructive qualities. In other words, they would approximate even more closely the effectiveness of tactical nuclear munitions, and would possibly even be on a par with them.

The Pentagon's new "initiative" is the latest attempt to retain military force as an effective policy tool in the next century. This is essentially the response to the Warsaw Pact countries' Budapest appeal for armed forces and conventional arms reductions in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. But it is not the response which the peoples of Europe and the world expected from America and its allies after Reykjavik.

The solution to the problem of survival lies not merely in removing the nuclear and space threat. It also lies in radically reducing armed forces and conventional arms, first and foremost on the European continent. It is a most important task to substantially reduce all the European states' ground force components and tactical strike aircraft and the corresponding U.S. and Canadian forces sited in Europe in the very near future.

The best forum for working out corresponding disarmament measures would be the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, whose second stage (Stockholm II) lies ahead. The general thrust of its work in ensuring a phased reduction in the level of military confrontation in Europe is exceptionally important. The participants in the latest (24-25 March 1987) session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee stressed that it is necessary to maintain military equilibrium at lower and lower levels; where inequalities exist in certain elements, it is necessary to equalize the situation with corresponding cuts. This approach differs from NATO's approach of achieving "equalization" through arms upgrading.

It is still difficult to forecast the ultimate results of the Vienna meeting, where the "Stockholm II' mandate is currently being drawn up, as is the course and outcome of the further struggle on security and disarmament issues. But it can be said with confidence that the CDI banner raised by Weinberger will probably not promote a real reduction in the combat pontential of conventional forces on our continent.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS INF ASPECT OF CHIRAC U.S. TALKS

PM061045 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Unnamed own correspondent dispatch: "Focusing on Bombs"]

[Text] Paris -- French Premier J. Chirac's visit to the United States, during which he held talks with President R. Reagan, Secretary of State G. Shultz, Defense Secretary C. Weinberger, and other officials, is over.

The talks focused on the Soviet proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe. Observers are pointing out that the French premier decided while overseas to speak on behalf of the West European governments, which are allegedly "concerned" about the prospect of U.S. cruise missiles and Pershings being removed. Paris, observers are noting, now heads the forces in Western Europe which are trying to link the question of the elimination of medium-range missiles with various conditions and demands on the Soviet Union, and in particular with the question of Soviet "superiority" in operational and tactical missiles and conventional arms and armed forces. To all intents and purposes France has backed away from the "zero option," which it had defended so ardently until quite recently.

President R. Reagan assured his guest that the United States is taking the "concern" of its NATO allies into consideration. On the conclusion of the talks J. Chirac noted with satisfaction that the White House is taking West European interests fully into account and that there are now no "reasons for alarm." "The current Euromissile talks will not lead to the creation of a nuclear-free Europe," the French premier stated in an interview with French radio. "Fortunately, a certain amount of nuclear weapons will remain in Europe."

"Saved!" was how L'HUMANITE summed up the results of the visit with bitter irony. "Europe will become a powder keg. We will be left with the means to destroy the old continent."

ZORIN ON U.S. OPPONENTS TO MISSILE TALKS

LD042356 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 4 Apr 87

["Moscow Viewpoint" commentary by political observer Valentin Zorin]

[Text] A great author said that history treads softly. It is indeed very often the case that those who witness crucial historic events were not aware of their importance as these events were taking place. My feeling is that at the moment the world is at a historic crossroads and our time will be studied by history students of the future as a turning point. The point at issue is the talks on medium-range nuclear missiles. The idea of the talks is to remove these missiles, tipped with warheads that are hundreds of times more powerful than the bomb that wiped out Hiroshima and Nagasaki, from the arsenals of the Soviet Union and the United States and scrap them.

An agreement to do so would be a turning point in postwar history, creating a new psychological climate. It would show in real terms that the idea of nuclear disarmament is no utopia. The latest developments in Washington, viewed in this context, seem all the more surprising. As soon as the Soviet Union made steps towards the United States, Washington took a step back.

The United States Administration is trying to invent all kinds of conditions for an agreement in order to interfere with progress towards it. THE BOSTON GLOBE points out that none of the problems on the agenda is an insurmountable obstacle on the way to an agreement, but each and every one of them can be the stumbling block if the supporters of the rough line in the Administration get the upper hand.

One cannot help wondering about who's making policy in Washington today. During the Soviet-American summit in Geneva in 1985 the head of the Pentagon sent the United States President a provocative letter in a bid to torpedo the summit. I could see for myself how the pressure brought on by the opponents of arms control torpedoed the agreement on nuclear arms reduction and (?their) abolition that began to emerge at Reykjavik at the last moment. Watching the maneuvers of the United States military-industrial complex and its attempts to interfere with agreements on medium-range nuclear missiles, I cannot help wondering whether their verdict will be the final one again.

'UNOFFICIAL' CONSULTATIONS ON DISARMAMENT CONTINUE

LD061136 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Vienna April 6 TASS -- Another meeting took place here today in the framework of unofficial consultations of representatives of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO Countries on cuts in armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.

Representatives of socialist countries in their statements evaluated the work done so far and voiced considerations about possible ways of making the consultations more efficient. They subjected to well-argued criticism of the "military superiority" of Warsaw Treaty countries on which the NATO representative insist. [sentence as received]

It was agreed that the consultations will resume in early May after a recess in the work of the Vienna followup meeting of representatives of the states taking part in the conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON GDR, CSSR ARMS INITIATIVE

LD042116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 4 Apr 87

[Text] The GDR and CSSR have put forward an important foreign policy initiative, by proposing to the FRG talks on the creation in central Europe of a corridor free of nuclear weapons. The proposal is contained in a message from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and Strougal, chairman of the CSSR government, to FRG Federal Chancellor Kohl. Over to our commentator Vladimir Pashko:

[Pashko] The fraternal countries are stepping up their efforts to see the implementation of the idea of a non-nuclear world, put forward by them a year ago. As follows from the message by Comrade Strougal, in the given specific instance we are talking about a strip about 300 km wide along the frontier line separating the FRG from the GDR and Czechoslovakia which would be cleared of all systems of nuclear weapons, with a subsequent extension of the corridor's range to take in the entire central European region.

It would be hard to overestimate the significance of this proposal. Its implementation would be an effective measure to strengthen confidence in Europe, and would facilitate a general consolidation of the regime of nuclear arms nonproliferation. I should note that the first mention of the idea of creating a non-nuclear corridor in Central Europe was made by the Palme Commission -- an independent commission on disarmament and security issues which unites prominent state and public figures from various countries. The idea was taken up. In March 1986 the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee spoke out in favor of it.

This was reflected in the subsequent appeal by the fraternal countries to European states, the United States and Canada on the creation of a non-nuclear zone in Europe. The leadership of the GDR and the West German SPD took upon themselves the task of drawing up the principles of the creation of a non-nuclear corridor. In October of last year the principles were introduced for public judgement The proposals of the GDR and Czechoslovakia to the FRG to embark on specific talks on the creation of a non-nuclear corridor is not only topical, but very timely. For it falls on the exceptionally fertile soil created by the Soviet proposal to conclude urgently a separate agreement on the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. As is known, the Soviet initiative has been widely supported by the Western Europeans, including West Germans. It is likewise quite obvious that the creation of a non-nuclear corridor would, in turn, substantially facilitate the holding of talks on the reduction and elimination of operational and tactical missiles, and would accelerate the resolving of the issue of reducing the armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe. In recent times not a little has been said by the FRG leadership about the desire to reduce the military confrontation in Europe and eliminate nuclear weapons on the continent. The proposal of the socialist countries opens up a great opportunity to attain these goals.

PHYSICIAN CONFIRMS READINESS TO HALT NUCLEAR TESTS

LD032257 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] West Berlin April 3 TASS -- The campaign against the threat of a nuclear war is the main task of the organization International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, said U.S. Professor Bernard Lown, co-chairman of the organization.

Addressing a meeting sponsored by the West Berlin Association of Physicians, he said that the Soviet Union, declaring a unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions, made its utmost to prevent the dangerous development of the international situation and to start a process of normalizing Soviet-American relations.

Academician Mikhail Kuzmin, chairman of the Soviet section of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, confirmed the USSR's readiness to resume at any time the moratorium if the United States stops nuclear testing. M. Kuzmin said that the acceptance of the Soviet proposal on liquidating Soviet and American medium-range missiles in Europe could be an important step on the way to disarmament.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD0518¾ Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 5 Apr 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Rudolf Georgiyevich Kolchanov, editor-in-chief of TRUD; Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, member of NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board; and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, political observer of Central Television and All-Union radio]

[Text] [Zholkver] Hello, comrades. An important event in international life last week was the visit of the British prime minister to the Soviet Union. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, having heard the reports on the results of the Soviet leaders' talks with Margaret Thatcher, noted their great importance both for bilateral relations and on the international level. The Politburo is convinced of the need to continue and deepen the political dialogue with Britain and with the other Western states in the spirit of the new thinking in order to overcome existing distrust and bring about a healthier international situation.

Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, I know you were in London on the eve of the visit. What was the mood there before the visit, and what is it now?

[Lebedev] You know, it's been very interesting to compare what we've been hearing from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, during her Moscow visit with what we heard in Britain -- from a great variety of British people, by the way. Let me explain that I was a member of a delegation of the Soviet Peace Committee, and that we were there at the invitation of the British Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

[Zholkver] So there's a campaign for nuclear disarmament in Britain! The impression one has been getting is that everyone in Britain dreams of possessing nuclear weapons.

[Lebedev] That's what I had particularly in mind when I spoke of a certain bafflement that we couldn't help feeling when we heard Margaret Thatcher here, because indeed from what she said, our people could have received the impression that in Britain everyone lies in hopes of this famous nuclear means of intimidation -- the nuclear deterrent -- and that the British just cannot imagine how they could exist without the miracle-working qualities, so to speak, of nuclear weapons. It turns out that this is not so. This Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament that I spoke of is quite large. To begin with, its individual members number a quarter of a million. Then there have been a good few antinuclear meetings and demonstrations at which the Campaign has fielded at times up to 1 million people. Well, of course, what gives the Campaign strength as an organiation is, without doubt, the Labor Party's program of renoucing nuclear weapons. We saw the movement and the Labor Party with our own eyes at our meetings in London, Cambridge and Bradford with various people representing various parties -- Labor, Liberal, and Conservative MP's; incidentally, we met at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, the London School of Economics. In other words, we are not judging by the opinion and arguments of some restricted circle of people, no. The Campaign and the Labor Party are by no means identical, but I'd say that they both do influence and support each other.

[Zholkver] Sorry to interrupt you, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich. You mentioned the Labor program, which you will of course have studied in detail, but I'd like to quote for the benefit of our listeners just one of its main points. By the way, the program is called "Europe -- New Detente."

Well, here, literally, is what that document says: We live on a dangerous continent. There are 10,000 nuclear warheads deployed in Europe -- enough to wipe all cities from the face of the earth and turn this continent forever into a radioactive kingdom of nuclear winter. This threat of war in Europe, the Labor program goes on to say, creates an ever-present tension affecting all aspects of political and everyday life. It affects normal diplomatic relations, trade, culture, movement, scientific life, even the unity of the family -- practically the entire range of the activities both of governments and of individual citizens. The policy of the Labor Party, it says, is directed toward achieving a cessation of the buildup of the arsenals of nuclear weapons and a real reduction of the existing stockpiles.

[Lebedev] To make it a little clearer to our listeners what this actually means, and what the actual difference is between the position of the Britain that Margaret Thatcher represented here and that of the other Britain also existing and which, I stress, is by no means small in numbers according to public opinion poll results that have been quoted to us, about 40 percent of British people now support the renunciation of nuclear weapons.

[Zholkver] Well, does that mean that the other 60 percent are in favor of nuclear weapons?

[Lebedev] That's just the point, of course, that they're not so much in favor of nuclear weapons, but rather in favor of a certain myth, as it were, that's associated with nuclear weapons.

Well, in the first place, some of the British believe that to give up nuclear weapons would be to say goodbye, as it were, to their past as a great power, that they'd be shedding an attribute that a first-class power must have. This is a delusion.

The Labor Party and many people in other political parties say that the realization not, of course, of imperial ambitions but of the perfectly natural claim to an active role and prestige in international affairs must be sought in a quite different direction by other means. Well, there are also some people in Britain who do not support the intention of the Conservative government to acquire Trident-2's from the Americans and, in general, to increase Britain's nuclear weapons to something like eight times the present level. Labor Paty leader Kinnock has even mentioned a figure of 16 times.

[Zholkver] Trident is a missile for submarines?

[Lebedev] For nuclear submarines. These missile systems are so designed that they can carry a very large quantity of nuclear warheads. A proportion of British people advocates a freeze on nuclear weapons at this level A great many Britons -- certainly more than half now -- are in favor of removing the U.S. cruise missiles as well as other U.S. nuclear weapons from their country's territory. There is now almost half, you can say, opposed in one form or another to nuclear weapons and in favor of renouncing the concept of the nuclear deterrent. This theme of the need for a new kind of political thinking was present everywhere in our conversations there.

[Zholkver] Yes, I saw a report that after Margaret Thatcher returned to London, when she was speaking in Parliament about the results of her visit, the British MP's taking part in the debate on the one hand made a positive assessment of the result of the visit, but noted that on a number of topical questions, primarily on the problems of arms control, the British prime minister adopted an unconstructive stance at the talks in Moscow. For example, prominent Labor Party figure Michael Foot appraised her statement in favor of nuclear weapons as a dangerous course.

Such a course, he said, only promotes the proliferatien of nuclear weapons, which may ultimately lead to disaster.

[Kolchanov] I believe our position, the position of those conducting today's roundtable discussion, and that of various political circles in Britain coincide in that we single out among the questions that were examined during Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Soviet Union the question of nuclear disarmament. That is generally the top priority topic in international affairs.

In the first place, the more nuclear weapons there are in the wide world, the greater is the possibility and the danger that they will be used by some maniac, or madman, or adventurist, or whoever. You know that making a nuclear bomb is now a fairly simple matter, and small-size nuclear weapons do exist. The U.S. forces stationed in West Europe, for instance, have the Echo or Delta-type nuclear backpack mines. A shell or mine of this type almost can be carried about in your handbag. The existence of nuclear weapons is, in itself, already an enormous threat. Even their accidental use is a source of great alarm to the people.

Second, the very fact of nuclear weapons being used as a means of maintaining the balance of terror, as a deterrent, and so forth presupposes a policy of blackmail and threat.

This very fact already implies the desire to exploit in one way or another the existing state of affairs: to make use of some slight advantage or some bad situation in order to pursue the highly dangerous policy of blackmail and threat. Third and finally, the longer we go on producing nuclear weapons, the greater, undoubtedly, will be the role played by militarist circles in the life of society -- in domestic politics, and in foreign policy also. What this phenomenon is fraught with is not, I think, something that we need to say much about.

[Lebedev] Yes, and incidentally, Margaret Thatcher, too, very often has used in defense, as it were, of her adherence to nuclear weapons this supposed fact that there is an advantage in conventional and chemical weapons in favor of the East, on the side of the Soviet Union. We made a special point of raising this question in Britain itself. At the Royal Institute of International Affairs, the Institute's director, Admiral Eberle, and a group of highly qualified scientific experts at Bradford University specializing in military affairs both have given the unequivocal answer that parity also exists in conventional weapons in Europe, and that if there is any asymmetry, any difference, then it poses no threat at all to the West. In general, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, I think we need to try to look at this problem a bit more in both its global and its general European aspect.

[Zholkver] At present this question of a nuclear-free world, a nuclear-free Europe, is being discussed not only in Britain or France: discussion actually is going on throughout Europe, both East and West, and a number of forums exist for it. In Geneva, the disarmament conference is in progress. The materials of the recent Moscow session of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states have been circulated there as official documents. You know that the matters discussed there have included both nuclear disarmament and the abolition of chemical weapons, on which a special statement has been issued, and -- what is no less important -- the questions concerning a substantial reduction of conventional armaments. After all, what we have in mind is not to abolish nuclear weapons while leaving intact conventional armaments, which -- here Margaret Thatcher is right -- indeed have caused two world wars without nuclear weapons, both of them very destructive.

[Kolchanov] This notion that we want to abolish nuclear weapons while retaining conventional arms is one that they actually are trying to put over to the man in the street in the West; but you are quite right to stress that this actually is not the case. One stage of disarmament, one Soviet proposal, is accompanied by a series of other proposals which, as a whole, represent a systemic picture of disarmament. We talk about medium missiles [as heard], and immediately declare that as soon as agreement is reached on medium missiles [as heard], we will remove our operational and tactical weapons from Czechoslovakia and the GDR -- increased-range weapons -- which were introduced in reply to NATO's upgrading.

[Zholkver] In reply to the Pershings.

[Kolchanov] Yes, to the Pershings. Then we say that we are willing to begin talks immediately on the other operational and tactical weapons that exist in Europe. We further say that you have on the table our proposals on conventional armaments. Here I must mention that the 23 states have now begun consultations in Vienna precisely for the purpose of drawing up a mandate for the next conference, which solely will discuss this question. Here there's no denying that priority belongs to the Soviet Union. All this is being done on our initiative and at our insistence.

[Lebedev] Rudolf Georgiyevich, what about chemical weapons? At the Geneva disarmament conference, discussion of these problems has not been going on for a very long time. In general there is a considerable willingness to sign an international convention banning chemical weapons and providing for their total abolition. Incidentally, Britain, a little while ago, did seem to be adopting a fairly constructive position, and one that in many of its aspects coincided, or at least met with understanding in our country and many others. Who is holding things up? They tell us it's the Americans -- that is what they've been telling us in Britain. But who, one may ask, has more influence on the United States -- in the framework of the famous Anglo-American special relationship -- than Margaret Thatcher herself, on President Reagan? That's where Britain could play its own considerable independent and positive role, just as, incidentally, with the concluding of a treaty banning all nuclear tests. In his time, Margaret Thatcher's predecessor, Harold Macmillan, also leader of the Conservative Party and prime minister, played, as we remember, as we know, quite a constructive part in the concluding of the agreement to ban nuclear tests in the three environments signed in Moscow by the USSR, United States and Britain.

[Kolchanov] I think that in general Europe now stands before a qualitatively new stage of detente. Europe's fortunes since the war have been complicated; there have been steps up and down, both in detente and in cooperation; but if we look at the central problem, as it were, from 1945 to 1946 up to the present, one thing that can be noted is that during all those years, the nuclear presence on the continent of Europe steadily has been increasing to one degree or another.

For the first time we are now on the threshold of the possibility of the nuclear presence not being increased but, just the reverse, being lessened. This is to my mind a qualitatively new stage in European detente, although many other very important initiatives regarding all-European cooperation could be added to this.

[Zholkver] Among these initiatives I should like to note a whole number of important ones belonging to the European socialist countries -- The GDR and Czechoslovakia. For instance, there has been the idea of the formation of what is called a nuclear-free corridor in Central Europe. This idea was put forward by both the GDR and Czechoslovakia. Contacts were established, for example, between the SED Party and the FRG's Social Democratic Party.

It is now already a joint project. What is more, a speech by Comrade Honecker, for instance, proposed that representatives of the governments of both the German states hold talks on the question of their possible contribution to the creation of this nuclear-free Central Europe, where they occupy such important positions on the line of contact between the NATO and Warsaw Pact states. During the past week there have been quite a few contacts on this matter. Comrade Guenter Mittag, secretary of the Central Committee and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, was in Bonn and had a meeting with Chancellor Kohl. I would, in general, note the fact that of late Bonn has been a capital where extensive discussions are being held on the issues of strengthening peace in Central Europe and nuclear disarmament. Of course these discussions are not all of a uniform character.

[Lebedev] Nevertheless what is the position now being adopted by the Bonn government?

[Zholkver] You know, it is not of course a uniform position. Indeed during the past week there was a discussion in Moscow -- which I followed very attentively -- a discussion within the framework of what is called the Bergedorf discussion group. Attending were representatives of both the ruling parties in the Bonn coalition as well as the opposition parties. It is interesting that after returning to Bonn a figure, for instance, such as Volker Ruehe, deputy chairman of the CDU parliamentary group -- a person who does not have a particular sympathy for us, like the whole of that group -- nevertheless spoke in favor of the elimination of all medium-range missiles in Europe, considering that this also would serve as an impetus for achieving agreement on other aspects of disarmament, in particular on eliminating chemical weapons. Of course, the so-called steel helmet group also exists within the framework of the same CDU group.

[Kolchanov] With Dregger at its head.

[Zholkver] Yes, with the chairman of this parliamentary group at its head. The steel helmet group, which also is known as Yesterday's Men, counts on strength, including nuclear weapons. But, after all, one must say that this is doubly dangerous for the FRG, inasmuch as it is precisely on FRG soil that all the 108 Pershings, which you, Rudolf Georgiyevich, mentioned are located. Living alongside them is, of course, very dangerous. I have seen interesting statements by the burgomeisters of two West German towns, Mutlangen and Heilbronn. They have alongside their towns indeed the Pershing missile sitings. Cruise missiles are now being added to these. The burgomeisters of the two towns belong to the CDU and both of them are in favor of removing as speedily as possible these monsters, as they call them. This does not reek of sympathy for nuclear deterrence.

[Lebedev] That is right, but of course the stereotypes are to my mind even more pronounced, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. I am deeply convinced that West Europe -- each country separately and West Europe as a whole, since they continuously are talking about their unity within the framework of the European Economic Community -- can, and even in my view, are bound to play a more active and positive role in achieving agreements on key issues. Indeed I do not want the information media -- as is often the case in the West -- to once again immediately take us by the hand and begin to clamor that we allegedly are attempting to drive wedges between the two shores of the Atlantic. It is not a matter of wedges, but common sense that must prompt the conclusion that it is absolutely no betrayal of even NATO solidarity if they explain to the U.S. Administration that SDI, for example, is plainly not in the interests of international security, that it is a threat, and, in particular, that it provides nothing toward the safeguarding of West Europe's security.

Unfortunately, we see that attempts now are being made to complicate the achievement of an agreement on medium-range missiles, which is now close, thanks to our action of 28 February. Attempts now are being made to create in place of one package of a new one and to add on to medium-range missiles shorter-range missiles, conventional weapons, and even human rights, which they are dragging in literally by the ears. This is of course an unseemly game.

[Zholkver] I am aware, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, that you are, so to speak, a European specialist. Before being in London you were recently in Spain, and you spoke about that in our last discussion. But, after all, this discussion goes beyond the framework of Europe alone. There is at the present time an interesting visit to Europe -- presently to East Europe -- by Narayan Dutt Tiwari, India's minister of external affairs. He has visited Czechoslovakia and Poland. Discussions were held, and it has been stressed by all sides -- the Indian, Czechoslovak and Polish sides -- that only a political dialogue and constructive cooperation between countries with different social systems can improve the international climate, the entire international climate, and not just the climate in Europe. I must say that the voice, of course, of India, which is a leading world and nonaligned power, is heeded everywhere and not just in Asia. Indeed, it is highly symptomatic that these statements in favor of a nuclear-free world and a non-violent world are to be heard at precisely this time when such a discussion also is taking place on the European continent.

[Lebedev] You are right, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. Everything in the modern world is indeed interconnected, and universal security should indeed be global and all-embracing, and we are appealing for this. There is a date in this respect which reminds us precisely of the danger of all regional conflicts.

It was in April after all that the Falklands War started -- the war around the Falkland-Malvinas Islands and...

[Lebedev, interrupting] Five years ago.

[Kolchanov] In April 1982.

[Zholkver] Yes, this very sad anniversary, so to speak, has arrived, and we recall what tension was created in international relations by this situation, although the affair took place in the South Atlantic -- very far, it would appear from our shores, but after all, the United States, which channeled assistance to Britain -- both intelligence, equipment and operational assistance -- was drawn into this. Britain had sent its colossal fleet there and many vessels -- this is known -- carried nuclear weapons on board.

[Lebedev] It is possible to cite many such examples, when what is by present-day standards a regional conflict takes hold of the entire planet, draws in states belonging to different military groupings -- defensive and offensive -- or states which are going absolutely nowhere. Our world is a very small one. For this reason, any regional conflict today is capable of being transformed into a global conflict. In this context, Latin America is providing us with not a few alarm signals. Primarily, American brigandage -- one cannot think of another word -- in Central America, and, in specific terms, directed against Nicaragua.

[Zholkver] But, incidentally, in this region there also is direct involvement of American servicemen in the conflict. Take the most recent events in Salvador.

During the rout of that major military base of the dictatorial Duarte regime -- El Paraiso in the Department of Chalatenango -- among those who died there was an American military advisor, a sergeant ...

[Kolchanov, interrupting] That isn't the first time; not the first time.

[Zholkver] It's not the first time. It is considered that five of them have died there already, with their weapons in hand. The overall number of military advisors in El Salvador -- the Americans give different figures -- is from 50 to 200. But after all, this is already direct involvement in military operations. You know what, Rudolf Georgiyevich, I would add to this a further aspect still. You know, apart from such direct armed intervention in the internal affairs of this enormous, stormy continent, another kind of intervention is underway where the weapon is the dollar. After all, that dollar-noose which has been drawn tightly around many countries of Latin America -- their foreign debt...

[Kolchanov, interrupting] Practically all of them, Aleksandr Vladimirovich.

[Zholkver] Yes, their foreign debt exceeds $360 billion.

[Kolchanov] Yes, it's already creeping up to $400 billion.

[Zholkver] Yes, Brazil has the largest debt -- more than $108 billion. Mexico's foreign debt is approaching $100 billion.

[Kolchanov] Argentina has $49 billion, and so on. It's a lot.

[Zholkver] In all this, what is going on when heads of state of these countries -- for example, Jose Sarney of Brazil, Alan Garcia of Peru -- state that they no longer are able to pay out the crushing interest rates on these debts insofar as this will lead to hunger and poverty in these countries. Washington's immediate reaction is threats and pressure on these countries, and this intensifies the conflict situation there. These are the reasons, and not the same mythological hand of Moscow that they try to find in all regional conflicts. By the way, they are not averse to sometimes trying to find it from London either; such voices also can be heard there that this hand of Moscow is guilty of everything, including -- as they like to say -- communist expansion. This is where the roots of tension in the world are -- in the actions of imperialism, including economic expansion.

[Kolchanov] Here I would only add one brushstroke: It is that this monstrous plundering is being used by the United States to plug the gaps in their military budget. They are plundering Latin American countries. They constantly are lowering the prices for raw materials in these countries. They are cleaning out these states down to the last dollar, and they use the gigantic sums received -- received in part through pure speculation -- to pump up the arms race, including in space.

[Zholkver] There is also another aspect to the problem. Such a course hinders the development of normal, mutually beneficial economic cooperation in the world, which is now truly imperative -- an absolute necessity, first and foremost, of course, on the European continent. Here there is an untapped wealth of opportunities, both in Soviet-British relations, and by the way...

[Lebedev, interrupting] This has now been confirmed by our agreements with Britain...

[Kolchanov] Yes, this sets a good example for joint ventures and for searching for new forms of cooperation. In the change from the bought-and-sold to more complex forms of scientific-technical and economic cooperation, a good example is being set by Europe.

[Zholkver] Yes, Indeed, last week a routine session, the fifteenth already, of the Soviet-West German commission of economic cooperation was held. Our delegation, led by Comrade Antonov, held talks in Bonn, and opportunities for new forms of this cooperation also were discussed here. So there really are great, wide-ranging opportunities here. How can one fail to remember the words of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, spoken at the dinner in the Kremlin in honor of Margaret Thatcher: Force should be replaced by common human values, relations with equal rights, presupposing respect for the interests of every people, and its right to make its own choice, the right to be different from others.

I think that on this note, we shall end our roundtable conversation. Thank you, colleagues, for taking part in it. Thank you, comrade listeners, for your attention.

REAGAN, CARRINGTON REAFFIRM 'DUBIOUS' NATO POLICY

LD041123 Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 4 Apr 87

[Text] Washington April 4 TASS -- President Ronald Reagan and NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington in a meeting here reaffirmed the dubious premise, to put it mildly, that the road to disarmament and stability goes only through the escalation of the arms arsenals. The meeting took place on the eve of the 38th anniversary of the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty, which marked the establishment of NATO.

In the past few years Washington and many West European capitals have been touting NATO as a "universal peace-keeper," and the only force capable of containing the "war hordes" of the Warsaw Treaty. But they never mention that the military organisation of socialist countries was established six years after the emergence of NATO. It was a forced reply of the socialist countries to the militarist preparations of the NATO alliance in Europe. It is likewise overlooked that the Warsaw Treaty member countries have stated on more than one occasion their readiness to disband their alliance if the NATO countries follow suit.

According to press reports, President Reagan and Lord Carrington discussed ways of tying the West European NATO countries even closer to the United States. AP reports that one item on the agenda of the White House talks was a U.S.-Sponsored project for broader NATO cooperation in the development, production and standardization of armaments. The United States plans to appropriate 200 million dollars for the purpose. Both Carrington and Reagan voiced support for the programme. Moreover, the U.S. President claimed that it would have a positive effect when talks opened with the Warsaw Treaty Organisation to achieve greater stability in conventional weapons.

TASS REVIEWS INITIAL REAGAN-MULRONEY TALKS

LD070732 Moscow TASS in English 0717 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Ottawa April 7 TASS -- TASS correspondent Ivan Mironov reports:

Talks between Prime Minister Mulroney of Canada and U.S. President Ronald Reagan staying here on an official visit ended here Monday. The agenda of the talks included, in the first place, questions connected with American-Canadian relations, specifically, the problem of "acid rains" that fall in Canada as a result of the pollution of the atmosphere by U.S. mills and factories, the concluding of a free trade agreement and the problem of the right to navigation in Arctica north of Canada.

Judging by speeches made in Parliament by the leaders of the two countries, no specific agreements were reached on the problems discussed. At a joint sitting of both chambers of Canadian Parliament Mulroney urged the U.S. Administration and Congress to work out jointly with the Government and Parliament of Canada as soon as possible a bilateral treaty aimed at resolving the "acid rains" problem. He supported the concluding of a trade agreement between the two countries providing for the removal of customs barriers.

The prime minister touched upon the arms race problem. He said that the Canadian people were very much concerned over the arms race and inspired by the prospects of arms reduction that had opened up recently.

President Reagan's speech was full, as usual, of elaborate phrases about the 'advantages' of the Western way of life, about the need for continuing the struggle for 'freedom' and 'democracy'. [single quotation marks as received]

Touching upon questions connected with arms reduction, he tried, disregarding real facts, to present the situation in such a way as though it is the U.S. that came up with the initiative in the struggle for the reduction of armaments. The President again played up the SDI program.

As far as the burning problems of bilateral relations are concerned, the problems that worry broad public circles of Canada, he only said that there were no quick and easy solutions to them and that in the future the U.S. and Canada could develop mutual understanding.

Reagan's speech was repeatedly interrupted by exclamations of Canadian parliamentarians "stop preparations for 'Star Wars'", "stop helping the contras", "stop interfering in the affairs of Nicaragua". While the head of the U.S. Administration was making the speech, a massive demonstration of the working people of Canada was held outside the building of Parliament. They protested the subordination of Ottawa to the policy of Washington and upheld Canada's independence and sovereignty.

GROMYKO, AMBASSADOR MATLOCK DISCUSS RELATIONS

LD061729 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 6 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, received in the Kremlin today Jack Matlock, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United States, who presented his credentials.

Speaking during the ceremony Ambassador Matlock said in particular that although the United States and the USSR adhere to absolutely different values they have many common interests. Moreover, the share a common responsibility that transcends far beyond the specific content of bilateral relations.

The U.S. ambassador said that the deepening of understanding between his country and the Soviet Union is a matter of exceptional importance. He said it was necessary to create a basis of trust without which it will be very difficult to achieve mutually advantageous goals.

When accepting the credentials Andrey Gromyko said in particular that it has so happened in history that the USSR and the United States have in their hands the most dreadful weapons ever invented by man. Hardly anyone will deny that if these weapons are put to use as a result of somebody's recklessness not even the sound of human speech will remain on earth.

A simple conclusion stems from all this: Both powers should protect both themselves and the entire world from such a catastrophe, Andrey Gromyko said further. Not only their top leadership but also their diplomatic services can and must make their contribution to the great cause of preserving peace on earth.

Geneva and Reykjavik are important milestones on the difficult road of talks followed by the two powers. The prime aim of the talks -- elimination of the danger of nuclear war -- has not yet been attained.

Much work therefore lies ahead, including for diplomats, in order to build an edifice of lasting peace when all the peoples could breathe freely without fear of the morrow, Andrey Gromyko said.

Our thoughts and our concrete proposals are known to the government of the United States and to the whole world for that matter. They were outlined by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev in relevant statements.

We would like to express hope that, as different from the present, they will be objectively treated in accordance with the hugeness of the tasks facing our countries in ensuring lasting peace on earth, Andrey Gromyko said.

Then Andrey Gromyko and Jack Matlock had a conversation.

The president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR outlined the Soviet Union's principled approach to searching for ways of solving key problems of safeguarding international security, removing the danger of war and stopping the arms race.

"The aim of the Soviet proposals in this field is for nuclear arms never to be used", he said. "And this requires that nuclear arms be destroyed".

"We have done everything possible for normal relations between the Soviet Union and the United States", Andrey Gromyko stressed. "We made our concrete proposals on this score but in reply all sorts of maneouvres are being undertaken with the aim of sidestepping the solution of burning issues. All this shows that at present the American Administration apparently does not have serious intentions to search for accords".

Jack Matlock expressed a certain optimism about the possibility of reaching accords between the United States and the Soviet Union.

MOSCOW TV ON U.S. PRESENCE IN GREECE, TURKEY

LD052011 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 5 Apr 87

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashov; correspondent G. Voytsekhovskiy video report]

[Excerpts] [Kondrashov] Now let's leave the trade conflict thundering across the Pacific Ocean for the Aegean Sea, where the other day yet another conflict -- a military one -- nearly occurred. [passage omitted]

[Voytsekhovskiy] Everyone who is following the course of events in the Aegean Sea wonders about the U.S. reaction. Sighs of relief can be heard in Washington. At the same time, they are ascribing to themselves a certain peacemaking mission, thanks to which they allegedly succeeded in pulling the duelists back from the barrier. The facts testify to the following:

The crisis in the Aegean Sea arose immediately after the end of a visit to the United States by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. In the meantime intensive talks were underway in Ankara between Pentagon chief Weinberger and his deputy, Perle. They were discussing an increase in military deliveries and the question of military bases. The agreement on the presence of U.S. military bases on Greek territory expires next year. The United States is unhappy with the behavior of its refractory partner, since Greece is pursuing an independent political course, and therefore one which is not to the liking of Washington. This is the origin of Washington's endeavor to take Greece in hand, put pressure on it, and show Athens that the discussions on extending the validity of the agreement on the presence of U.S. bases in Greece will be conducted from a tough stance. [video shows Voytsekhovskiy in office, speaking to camera]

Greece has acted firmly in the situation which has arisen. The government stated that the United States and NATO bear the responsibility for the Aegean crisis, and at a critical moment took the decision to temporarily halt the operation of the U.S. radar base at Nea Makri which, in particular, coordinates the activities of the U.S. 6th Fleet. That decision caused a great rumpus in Washington; the U.S. Administration was obliged to soften its tone somewhat and even resort to statements of reassurance.

Nontheless, there are no grounds for reassurance, since the U.S. military bases exist and continue to function. There are many of them in Turkey, and some on Greece territory too -- near Athens and on Crete. Now in the north of Cyprus as well, at Lefkoniko. There is no need to prove that they serve military, or rather aggresive, purposes. Remember the U.S. intervention in Lebanon and the barbaric missile attacks on Libya.

This is why alarm is being caused not by the Greco-Turkish quarrel in the Aegean Sea itself, but by the situation around it. Yes, the crisis is past, but its underlying causes remain. [Video shows U.S. military bases; maps indicating locations of bases]

PENG ZHEN CITED ON 'BOURGEOIS LIBERALIZATION'

LD051200 Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Text] Beijing April 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Grigoriy Arslanov reports:

The socialist way is the decisive condition for production to develop steadily, for China to become a mighty prosperous country and for the living standards of the people to be raised, said Peng Zhen, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, at a meeting with a group of deputies of the congress, the supreme organ of state power of the People's Republic of China.

The struggle against the ideological "bourgeois liberalisation" trend, which is under way in China, he said, is directly related to the question: Which way is to be followed?

The history of China over the past 100 years shows that capitalism does not suit our country, said the Chinese leader. "Bourgeois liberalisation", imitation of the West in all respects leads to denial of the socialist system, advocation of the capitalist system. This is by no means a reform, this is also contrary to the constitution and for the members of the Communist Party of China this signifies violation of the party rules, he stressed. Therefore, those preaching the capitalist way of development violate the constitution, and moreover act against the will of the people.

Touching upon the struggle against unwholesome tendencies in the Communist Party of China, the chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress stressed the need of intensifying educational work among the party members in the spirit of devotion to the ideas of socialism, in the spirit of serving the people.

Peng Zhen stressed the great significance of thrift in production. The calls for raising the level of consumption does not correspond to real conditions in China, and can lead to disruption of the correlation between the immediate and long-term interests of society. The standards of living of the people can be improved only through developing production, he said.

IZVESTIYA CITES YAO YILIN ON CHINESE REUNIFICATION

PM031101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by unnamed own correspondent: "Regarding the Taiwan Question"]

[Text] Beijing -- China wishes to resolve the Taiwan question by peaceful means, but nonpeaceful means for the reunification of the motherland cannot be ruled out.

This was announced to correspondents by Yao Yilin, member of the CPC Central Committee Poitburo and vice premier of the PRC State Council, at a news conference organized by the secretariat of the current session of the National People's Congress, supreme organ of state power in the PRC. China desires the country's reunification, Yao Yilin noted, but it is still hard to say when this task could be implemented.

PRAVDA ON PRC SPACE SUCCESS, FOREIGN INTEREST

PM011055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 87 First Edition p 7

[B. Barakhta report under the rubric "We Report Details": "The Xichang Space Center"]

[Text] According to RENMIN RIBAO, a contract for placing a U.S. communications satellite in an earth orbit by means of a Chinese delivery vehicle -- "Long March-3" -- was recently signed in Beijing. According to this document, the PRC "Great Wall" industrial company is to launch a satellite weighing 1,325 kg for the U.S. (Terasat) corporation before May this year.

The PRC is confidently joining the ranks of leading space powers. The first Chinese rocket was launched in 1964, and later last year the 19th artificial satellite was launched. Satellite launchings have been carried out in the PRC since 1970.

The main achievement of the Chinese space program is the development of the Chinese "Long March-3" delivery vehicle. It is a 3-stage rocket, more than 40 meters long, fueled by a mixture of liquid oxygen and hydrogen. Its payload exceeds 2 metric tons.

In recent years, PRC scientists have achieved good results in building and launching various scientific research satellites. At the beginning of the eighties, space devices such as the "China-I" and "China-II," weighing up to 3.5 metric tons, appeared in this range. The PRC has developed and successfully used technology for bringing satellites back to earth and for launching several satellites by means of one delivery vehicle.

The PRC's main space center is located in the Gobi desert. However, recently another space center has been established in Sichuan Province. Last fall this new launch site for Chinese rockets located some 200 miles from Chengdu, the provincial capital, was visited by U.S. Defense Secretay C. Weinberger. The Xichang Space Center is well equipped and fully meets the required standards, as foreign journalists accompanying the Pentagon chief noted.

According to press reports, more than 12,000 people currently are employed in the PRC space industry. By 1990 this figure will have more than doubled. By the turn of the next decade, judging by the Chinese space program, the launching of 10 communications satellites is planned, satellites for the exploration of natural resources on earth, and meteorological satellites. Chinese space medicine is devloping and cosmonauts are being trained. At the same time, it is thought in China that the main emphasis in the development of spaceflight should be placed on launching unmanned and relatively inexpensive craft -- which results in big savings. The flight of the first Chinese multiple-use spacecraft is planned for the next century.

The advantageous terms offered by the "Great Wall" company, the Chinese press notes, have attracted the interest of a number of foreign companies. The launching of commercial satellites by means of the "Long March-3" delivery vehicle will cost 15-20 percent less than a launch carried out by the U.S. shuttle or the West European Ariane. In addition, the PRC offers insurance through the national insurance society, which is also cheaper than international rates. As a result, RENMIN RIBAO writes, around 10 foreign corporations already have expressed a wish to have their devices launched into an earth orbit by Chinese delivery vehicles.

TASS NOTES U.S., JAPAN SECRET NUCLEAR ACCORD

LD061228 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo April 6 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vasiliy Golovnin reports:

Washington and Tokyo keep in secret archives the texts of the so-called confidential arrangements of 1960 on introducing cladestinely U.S. nuclear weapons in Japan, about the existence of which there has been no knowledge until recently, Rear Admiral (retired) Gene Larocque, director of the U.S. Centre for Defense Information, told the newspaper 'AKAHATA'.

He emphasized that he intended to resort to legal procedures to force the Reagan administration to make public these agreements which openly violate the official ban on introducing nuclear weapons in effect in Japan.

Late last week, representatives of the Communist Party made public a directive by U.S. State Secretary Dean Rusk of February 24, 1966, addressed to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo. The directive, stamped as top secret, bluntly speaks of the existence of confidential accords, concluded six years earlier, on an unimpeded delivery of U.S. nuclear weapons to Japan.

The directive also instructed the embassy to prevent by any means the U.S. Far-Eastern ally from supporting the USSR's proposal for the non-use of nuclear weapons against those non-nuclear countries which refuse to deploy them in their territories.

The press points out that the directive became the first documentary evidence of the fact that Washington and Tokyo have deliberately deceived the public for almost 30 years and violated the ban on the introduction of mass annihilation systems to Japan, blocking the conclusion of effective agreements on averting the risk of war.

The U.S. Embassy in Japan today failed either to disprove or certify the very fact of the existence of Rusk's secret directive. Replying to a question by the TASS correspondent, a staffer of the Embassy Information Department said only that he was not authorized to make statements on some or other official telegrams coming in from Washington.

PRAVDA CITES KIM IL-SONG ON USSR TIES, ROK 'HOTBED'

PM061341 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In a Single Formation"]

[Text] Havana, 30 Mar -- The relations of friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and the Soviet Union are deepening and developing in all spheres of politics, the economy, and culture, Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and DPRK president, declared.

In an interview with PRENSA LATINA, he highly appraised the results of his friendly visit to the USSR last October, noting that the ties, mutual support, and solidarity between the Soviet Union and the DPRK are strengthening at present and that energetic measures are being implemented to expand and develop economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and bilateral trade.

As a result of aggressive maneuvers by U.S. imperialism, South Korea has now turned into a dangerous hotbed of nuclear war, Kim Il-song noted. More than 1,000 nuclear weapons of different types are stationed there. Last June, our government put forward an initiative to transform the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone. This initiative received broad support from peace-loving forces.

DPRK LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT EXHIBITION OPENS

SK051149 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Article by Moscow radio reporter (Marina Losev)]

[Text] An interesting exhibition opened on 31 March at the Moscow exhibition hall. At this exhibition, various types of light industrial products made by the Korean general international joint-venture corporation, which consists of companies which [word indistinct] and in which Korean residents in Japan are participating and of the DPRK light industrial enterprises, are on display.

Clothing for men and women, spring coats, jackets, sweaters, and home wear, which attracts the people's attention, skirts made of fashionable fabrics, blouses, products made of soft cotton, stylish shoes, sports shoes, children's shoes, and other leather products, are on display at this exhibition for Moscow residents.

No one can remain indifferent to such items on display. If such goods were brought into our stores, they would not remain there very long. Thus, foreign trade organizations in the Soviet Union and Korea are interested in introducing such products to our country. We should note, at this point, that cooperation and friendly relations between our two countries are developing and strengthened in all fields of daily life including trade.

In his speech at the opening ceremony of the exhibition, (Nikolay Sinikov), deputy chairman of the Soviet trade and economic committee, said:

[Begin (Sinikov) recording in Russian fading into Korean translation] Recently, trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK entered a new stage of development. The effects registered in developing the economic cooperation agreed upon during the meeting between the heads of the governments of the two countries last December and the signing of the Treaty on Mutual Delivery and Payment for the 1986-90 period between the Soviet Union and the DPRK in February 1986 are of significance.

This treaty foresees a twofold increase in the trade of goods from that of the past 5-year period. [end recording]

The exhibition, which has just opened, undoubtedly demonstrates the relations that are smoothly developing between our two countries. Familiarizing themselves with the goods displayed in the exhibition, our two countries will be able to sign a new trade agreement.

Comrade Chong Chin-sik, vice president of the Korean general international joint-venture corporation, said:

[Begin Chong recording] I am very glad to have this opportunity to hold the first goods exhibition in Moscow, the capital of the Soviet Union, since the Korean general international joint-venture corporation was organized. I also express deep appreciation to our many friends for participating in this event. [end recording]

Expressing his thanks to functionaries of the Soviet expo center for its cooperation and assistance extended in holding this exhibition, he expressed his belief that this exhibition of light industrial products will contribute to further strengthening the cooperation and friendship between our countries and to developing trade between the Soviet Union and the DPRK.

He continued: I also hope that this type of exhibition will continue in the future. I believe that the light industrial products of the Korean general international joint-venture corporation will be seen not only at this exhibition but also in rooms [homes] in the near future.

TRADE OFFICIAL KOMAROV MEETS MPR TRADE MINISTER

PM060939 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] N.D. Komarov, USSR first deputy minister of foreign trade, has had a conversation with J. Dulmaa, Mongolian minister of foreign trade, on questions of expanding trade and economic cooperation. Appropriate documents were signed.

Mongolian Ambassador to the USSR T. Gurbadam attended the signing ceremony.

MONGOLIAN CHIEF OF STAFF ENDS OFFICIAL VISIT

PM061543 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Visit Completed"]

[Text] Lieutenant General S. Jadambaa, chief of General Staff of the Mongolian Armed Forces and Mongolian first deputy defense minister, left the Soviet Union on 2 April after an official friendly visit to our country at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister.

PAKISTAN'S JUNEJO INTERVIEWED ON AFGHAN SITUATION

LD051124 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Text] London April 5 TASS -- Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo of Pakistan has said in an interview with British television that a sincere desire of the Soviet leadership to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan manifested itself during the recent Pakistani-Soviet talks.

He voiced hope that at the next round of Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva "there will be a possibility of a breakthrough" in the issue of a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. The talks are conducted through Diego Cordovez, personal envoy of the U.N. secretary general.

Mr Junejo's statement is no surprise, for it is known that the Soviet Union does sincerely strive for a settlement of the Afghanistan situation.

This is being hindered, however, by the present U.S. Administration which practices the export of counter-revolution on a global scale.

As soon as some shift in the Pakistani position begins to show, the White House, the CIA, and the Pentagon immediately make feverish efforts for the purpose of frustrating accord and put pressure on the Pakistanti military regime.

THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper reported today with reference to informed sources that the Reagan administration is sending about six hundred portable sets of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, including modernized ones, to seven main Afghan counter-revolutionary groups.

The newspaper points out that concern is being voiced that the weapon may fall into the hands of Iran or terrorists.

THE WASHINGTON POST writes that one source familiar with the weapons transfer procedure said "the initial procedures for assuring tight control are no longer being followed with the same rigor" and that launchers are now handed out in Pakistan to a large number of groups. Initially, only three of the seven groups were said to be receiving the weapon.

Among those receiving the weapon are such groups which are prepared to use the weapon for their own purposes.

Will it be any wonder if a U.S. aircraft turns out to be shot down in some place by American missiles intended for counter-revolutionaires.

To Meet Thatcher, Howe

LD060924 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] London April 6 TASS -- Mohammad Khan Junejo, prime minister of Pakistan, arrived here for an official visit Sunday. He will hold talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Geoffrey Howe, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs and other members of the cabinet, and will visit Scotland.

According to local observers, much attention will be devoted at the talks to the regional problems, specifically, to the situation around Afghanistan, in the setting of the recent visit to the USSR of the head of the British Government.

In an interview with British television Junejo said that, in his opinion, the Soviet leadership and the Afghan Government were sincerely interested in settling the situation around Afghanistan where the process of national reconciliation was gaining momentum. He expressed hope that decisions in this sphere could be made in the course of the next round of the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan under the aegis of a representative of the U.N. secretary general.

At the same time, he set forth the notorious stand which boils down to the need for taking into account during the solution of all the problems the demands of ringleaders of counterrevolutionary groups entrenched in Pakistan who are trying to disrupt the national reconciliation process in Afghanistan. Junejo had to admit that today's relations among the heads of Afghan counterrevolution were those of confusion and squabbling.

Answering the question about the Pakistani nuclear program, Junejo said that Pakistan had no possibility for producing an atomic bomb. It is noteworthy that this statement is totally at variance with the recent statement of president Ziaul Haq of Pakistan in an interview with TIME to the effect that his country could produce an atomic bomb whenever it pleased. At the same time, the prime minister admitted that Pakistan had a possibility to produce enriched uranium "for peaceful purposes."

DRA SPOKESMAN ON IRANIAN, PAKISTAN, 'ATROCITIES'

LD041228 Moscow TASS in English 1157 GMT 4 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 4 TASS -- A spokesman for the Afghan Foreign Ministry has said that homecoming by Afghan refugees is a serious blow to reactionary quarters in Iran and Pakistan seeking to check this process.

In a statement to BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY he said that Iranian and Pakistani authorities, far from cooperating with Afghanistan to facilitate the refugees' return, were, on the contrary, throwing up artificial impediments in their way home.

He explained that refugees were being used as a tool for armed aggression against democratic Afghanistan and that their presence also offered a pretext for bigger foreign military and economic aid.

Islamabad and Tehran, as well as imperialist countries of the West, were out to prevent a mass return by refugees to Afghanistan, the spokesman said, adding that that was the reason why they were resettling Afghans from border areas deeper inside Iran and Pakistan, tightening police control over refugee camps and fining those declaring a wish to go back to Afghanistan.

They were also rejecting the latter's proposals of charter flights for returning refugees, closing or even mining roads that led to the Afghan frontier and, finally, openly using force, as a result of which many Afghans had been killed or injured, while others imprisoned, he continued.

The spokesman said there were hundreds of facts testifying to the inhuman treatment of Afghan emigrants by the Iranian and Pakistani authorities.

He read out a record of atrocities committed by Iranian and Pakistani security forces against Afghans willing to return home.

On February 4, for example, three persons were killed and dozens of others wounded in Pakistani territory because they wanted to go back to their homes in Qandahar and Helmand Provinces.

On February 5 "Guards of the Islamic Revolution" prevented 400 Afghan families, who had temporarily resided in the Iranian cities of Mashhad and Birjand, from returning to their fatherland.

The Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman said after citing this data that even despite the danger, many thousands of refugees were returning to Afghanistan after learning of the policy of national reconciliation proclaimed here.

He said that those who had not been able to cross the border had fallen victim to the anti-Afghan policy of the ruling quarters of Pakistan and Iran and their backers -- the United States and other imperialist countries.

PAPER SAYS U.S. ARMS PREVENTING DRA RECONCILIATION

PM031355 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

[Special correspondent A. Mozgovoy feature: "Washington Assigns Additional Millions for the Dushmans' Needs in Afghanistan"]

[Text] News Report From Kabul [subhead]

Kabul, 28, (TASS) -- One more group of Afghans has returned from abroad to Jowzjan Province. Dozens of families who had earlier abandoned their country under the influence of enemy propaganda expressed the wish to contribute to the implementation of national reconciliation.

Throughout the country meetings and gatherings of working people are going on. Their participants -- workers, peasants, employees, tradesmen, religious figures,and students -- have declared their support for the PDPA and DRA government policy directed at establishing peace and security.

WASHINGTON TIMES report [subhead]

Recently the CIA has shipped hundreds of Stinger antiaircraft missiles to the Afghan rebels. More than 300 missiles have already been supplied. Hundreds more such missiles are in the process of being delivered.

Kabul-Moscow -- The casualty ward of the hospital at the Afghanistan Armed Forces Academy of Military Medicine: A truck carrying seriously wounded men from Paktia Province has just arrived. I spoke to one of the casualties. His hands were in bandages, and his face was lashed with shrapnel.

"Lieutenant (Janadgul), border guard," he introduced himself and, scarecly moving his lips, continued:

"They brought us all out from near Chamkani, right on the border with Pakistan. Since 15 January, that is since the moment our government's order for a unilateral cease-fire came into force, we were subjected to constant fire from the dushmans."

"What kind of weapons were fired at you?"

"Recoilless rifles and heavy machine guns. And they fired missiles. I was wounded by shrapnel from missile shells."

"But you had the right in self-defense to fire back..."

"Yes, that's right. But we didn't."

"Why?"

"Bandits were firing at us not from Afghan but from Pakistani territory. If we had responded, we would have been accused here of aggression against Pakistan."

"You mean that you were being provoked to fire back?"

"Of course, these were the most genuine provocations. Imagine what an outcry there would have been in the United States if we had responded!"

These provocations cost much. Lt (Janadgul) thinks that he was lucky. Many of his comrades were killed or maimed.

Private Mir Ahmad is being wheeled out of the operating theater. He is 36. He has been in the Army 2 and 1/2 years. He was wounded at Chamkani by shrapnel from a recoilless rifle shell fired from from Pakistani territory. The surgeons had to amputate Mir Ahmad's leg.

"The rocket exploded near me," Pvt Muhammad Ismail told me. "My legs were riddled with shrapnel. So I am left without them."

"Where did they fire from?"

"From Pakistani territory. Allah will punish them for their base crimes."

Perhaps Chamkani was an exception? Unfortunately not.

"We were accompanying a truck convoy going from Kabul to Ghazni with supplies," Pvt Gulyam Omar said. "During the night dushmans set up an ambush. An antitank rocket hit our APC. I was wounded in the lega and arm..."

Where do the bandits who refuse to take the road of reconciliation which the DRA Government is calling for find the latest weapons? The weapons are bought with Washington money, and the crimes are paid for in dollars. They are well paid, what is more. There is even a tariff for each soldier killed, for each APC or truck set on fire.

If the flow of dollars were to cease, the dushmans' activity would immediately abate. But the United States wants blood shed in Afghanistan. The war in this country is in essence a U.S. war. In the present fiscal year Washington has allotted $630 million as against $470 million last year for the bandit formations' needs. An increase of $160 million is the additional payment for those who hesitate. These are new consignments of the most modern arms. This includes Stinger portable antiaircraft missiles.

Translated from the English, "Stinger" means "dart." The United States is aiming this "dart" at the process of national reconciliation which has the support of the entire Afghan people. They are counting on the Stingers deliberately. Last year, when the supply of this weapon to the dushmans was officially announced, the U.S. PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER wrote: "Several hundred Stinger missiles in rebel hands is hardly going to change the outcome of the fighting in their favor, but, in the words of some White House officials, this sophisticated weapon has great political significance, even if its military significance is not so great."

Yes, the policy of state terrorism which the present U.S. administration is pursuing demands not dialogue, not the search for mutually acceptable solutions at the negotiating table, but missiles, bombs, and shells. Otherwise it simply does not work. Above all they want, with the aid of the Stingers, to terrorize the civilian population which, in Afghanistan's mountainous conditions with its difficult roads, is often forced to resort to air transport services. "Every airplane shot down with dozens of passengers on board undermines confidence in the government because it proves unable to ensure safe flights," -- so runs the jesuitical logic of those who advocate the "great political significance" of equipping the bandits with Stingers.

In Kabul I was shown another Western invention -- the British Blowpipe portable antiaircraft missile ("pipe for shooting poisoned arrows" is how its name is lengthily and ominously translated). The missile is assembled at the Short Brothers firm's plant in Belfast. In that same Belfast where the Protestant majority, with the tacit approval of official London, terrorizes the Catholic community. On the banks of the Thames, evidently, it is considered that the terror in Ulster is not enough. That is why Blowpipes are obligingly given to the dushmans. And they have started using them. On 3 September 1985 a passenger airliner of Afghanistan's Bakhtar airline, bound for Farah out of Qandahar airport, was shot down with such a missile. Some 52 people, including 6 children and 7 women, were killed.

One more tragedy occurred on 9 February this year. Dushmans used a Stinger missle to shoot down a civil airliner en route from Khowst to Kabul. Thirty passengers and six crew members were killed.

"The supply of Stingers to counterrevolutionary gangs creates a threat not only to the people of Afghanistan," Sarwar Yoresh, DRA first deputy foreign minister, says. "They threaten the security of civil aviation flights everywhere. But the dushmans are not averse to reselling weapons obtained on the black market. That is, there is no guarantee that Stingers cannot fall into the hands of terrorists from other countries."

The U.S. press also expresses such fears. THE WASHINGTON POST does not rule out the possibility that in time "some guy equipped with Stingers could appear, for example, in Rome and destory a jetliner."

If such a thing were to happen, what would the White House say then? Would it publicly condemn terrorism, as before? Or put the "incident" in the category of "political cost"? But now the Afghan people are the victim of the "Stinger" policy. The blood of those killed and mained at Chamkani, of those killed by Stingers and Blowpipes, is on the conscience of the U.S. Government and other Western powers. The U.S. Administration is trying by these means to stop the process of national reconciliation in the DRA and to explode a political settlement around Afghanistan.

CPSU DELEGATION RECEIVED BY CAMBODIA'S HUN SEN

LD022251 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1427 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Phnomh Penh, 2 Apr (TASS) -- Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Politburo and chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, today received M.N. Smirnovskiy, deputy departmental chief, who is here to conduct consultations on matters of inter-party links between the CPSU and the KPRP. A conversation took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Taking part in the conversation was Yu.I. Razdukohv, USSR ambassador to the PRK.

Cambodian Coverage

For Cambodian media reportage on the visit of the CPSU Central Committee Foreign Liaison Department delegation led by M.N. Smirnovskiy, deputy departmental chief, see the Cambodia section of the 3 April Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

TASS CITES GREATER CIA ACTIVITY IN PHILIPPINES

LD060913 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Manila April 6 TASS -- The White House plans to give greater scope to CIA covert operations in the Philippines gives rise to deep concern among the Philippine public.

Alejandro Lichauco, a Philippine economist and public figure of prominence, writes in the newspaper "MALAYA" that the move to release an extra 10 million dollars for the needs of the U.S. espionage agency in the Philippines in the next two years bears witness to Washington's intention to meddle actively in the development of the situation in the country which has the Clark Field and Subic Bay Pentagon Bases, [as received] the largest in South-East Asia.

In the arsenal of the U.S. CIA's means are covert political operations to whip up anti-communist hysteria in the Philippines, to discredit the activity of progressive nationalist parties and organisations, to stage-manage and commit assassinations of personalities who criticize U.S. imperialism.

Besides, in the run-up to the Congressional elections scheduled for this May in the Philippines the CIA has launched a vigorous activity to lend direct financial support to those of the rightist bourgeois candidates who will be able to assume the role of Washington's puppets in the country's supreme legislative authority.

The progressive public in the Philippines protests U.S. intervention in the political process inside the Philippines, Lichauco writes in conclusion.

GORBACHEV VISIT POSTPONED BY 'MUTUAL AGREEMENT'

LD061926 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Text] Prague April 5 TASS -- A press center has been opened in Prague today specially for the official visit of friendship of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. Czechoslovakia's deputy foreign minister Roman Narozny has announced that by mutual agreement, Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Czechoslovakia has been postponed till the second half of next week.

At a press conference Roman Narozny, press center manager I. Franjo and J. Soukup, chief of the Press Department of the Czechoslovakian Foreign Ministry, answered questions from journalists.

About 300 foreign journalists from more than 40 countries of five continents, including correspondents of 13 major TV companies, have been accredited at the press centre. [TASS English at 1535 GMT on 5 April earlier reported the postponement of Gorbachev's visit to the CSSR in a report identical to the TASS Russian report published in the 6 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page F1, under the headline "Gorbachev CSSR Visit; Postponed Over 'Slight Cold'".]

PRAVDA ON GDR-FRG TALKS ON EUROPEAN ISSUES

PM021315 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Key Question"]

[Text] Berlin, 28 Mar -- E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has received here W. Schaeuble, chief of the FRG Chancellery. There was an exchange of opinions on international questions, primarily on current issues of arms limitation and disarmament, as well as on questions of GDR-FRG relations.

The GDR leader stressed that safeguarding and strengthening peace is a key question in relations between the two German states. At a time of a tense international atmosphere, still more active efforts are needed to strengthen peace and avert the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. Both German states must promote a reduction in confrontation and the achievement of results in disarmament. The chances offered by Reykjavik must be grasped.

During the talk, considerable attention was devoted to what the two German states should do to effectively support M.S. Gorbachev's proposal to immediately conclude a separate agreement on eliminating all medium-range missiles in Europe. This, E. Honecker pointed out, would open up great opportunities for reducing the nuclear burden in Europe. In such a case the increased-range operational and tactical missiles sited in the GDR would be withdrawn.

Touching on GDR-FRG relations, E. Honecker said that they will make progress if both sides are guided by respect for sovereignty, equal rights, noninterference, a businesslike approach, and consideration of the other side's legitimate interests. There are many opportunities for doing this -- in the sphere of trade, the economy, environmental protection, science, technology, and culture, for instance.

GDR CULTURAL PROTOCOL; GDR MINISTER COMMENTS

PM061043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Ye. Popov dispatch: "Protocol Signed"]

[Text] Berlin -- The first session of the USSR-GDR Intergovernmental Cultural Cooperation Commission has ended work here. The Soviet delegation was headed by V.C. Zakharov, USSR minister of culture.

The creation of a special intergovernmental commission was an important new element in cultural cooperation between the USSR and the GDR. As was noted at the first session, the commission will help to better organize exchanges of experience, to brief the sides more efficiently on progress in carrying out plans, and to define more rapidly ways of solving any problems that arise.

The session closed with the signing of a joint protocol on ways of deepening cultural cooperation between the USSR and the GDR. I asked Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, GDR minister of culture, to comment on the document.

"A start has been made," he said, "on a qualitatively new stage in developing cultural cooperation between our countries. It is not a question of simply expanding ties, but of taking them to a higher level and ensuring their planned and consistent development with a view not only to the immediate future, but to the longer term -- at least until the year 2000.

Artistic and cultural figures in the two countries are preparing to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution as a great holiday. The planned program is multifaceted -- the best creative collectives will be touring. The celebrations to mark Berlin's 750th anniversary also will be a portentous event. Moscow's Bolshoy Theater, Leningrad's Malyy Theater, a music hall troupe from Leningrad, and other well-known Soviet collectives will put on shows in the GDR capital.

SHALAYEV HEADS DELEGATION TO WARSAW WFTU SESSION

LD282043 Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw March 28 TASS -- A programme for the activities of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) up to 1990 and plans of work for the current year are being discussed by the participants in the 37th session of the WFTU bureau which opened in the Polish capital today.

In his report on the main trends in the federation's activities for the next period Ibrahim Zakaria, WFTU secretary-general, pointed out the exceptional significance of the active participation of trade unions in the fight for peace, disarmament and social progress It is necessary to step up the campaign for nuclear disarmament, above all in support of the Soviet proposal on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. This proposal met with vigorous support from the working people of the whole world, who see in it an opportunity to ensure a safe future for the whole humanity.

Of great significance is the whole complex of activities in the name of peace, of ending the weapons race and preventing its spreading into outer space.

He also stressed the importance of concerted actions by the trade unions for the resolution of economic and social problems against the onset of big business against the rights and interests of the working people, the growth of unemployment and a cut in the spendings on the social programmes.

One can ever more clearly see in the international trade union movement the trend towards the development of close cooperation in the first place in the fight for peace, for humanity's survival, said Stepan Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman, who heads the Soviet trade union delegation attending the session. Another big step towards the implementation of the Soviet programme for a nuclear-free world, is the proposal of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

SOKOLOV GREETS HUNGARY'S KARPATI ON HOLIDAY

PM061549 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

[Message from Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister, to Colonel General F. Karpati, Hungarian defense minister]

[Text] To Comrade Colonel General F. Karpati, Minister of Defense of the Hungarian People's Republic.

Respected Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own account I send you and every member of the Hungarian People's Army cordial congratulations on your national holiday -- the 42d anniversary of Hungary's liberation from fascism.

Implementation of the course developed by the fraternal parties of the socialist countries and the far-reaching, positive transformation in various spheres of life open up new prospects in relations between our countries with regard to further improving collaboration and cooperation in the solution of sociopolitical and socioeconomic tasks and questions relating to strengthening our defense capability. We will continue to strengthen the power of our alliance -- the Warsaw Pact -- which is a reliable guard of peace and socialism.

I wish Hungarian People's Army personnel new success in enhancing their military skill and strengthening Soviet-Hungarian combat cooperation.

With communist greetings

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR minister of defense.

ARIANE SCANDAL; INF, SPACE, CHIRAC VISIT EFFECTS

PM061121 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko dispatch: "Like A Detective Story"]

[Text] Paris -- Like the low-budget U.S. detective series swamping French television, the affair that is currently being whipped up by the local mass media also comprises many episodes. It has been concoted according to the classic spy-novel recipe in which the "Reds" play the bad guys.

Thus, whereas in the first episode it was a question of a group of Frenchmen handing the Russians secrets about the Ariane rocket (this has already been discussed in IZVESTIYA), new "revelations" followed later. It seems that the Soviets picked out many targets in France to satisfy their "colossal" needs in the economic and technological fields. Consequently, the photocopiers that were copying "secret documents" for Moscow went from red-hot to white-hot and the computers at the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies, where the two engineers accused of espionage worked, already have been ravaged (Even though an institute representative pointed out that the data they contain are not secret, his words went unheeded).

Writers skilled in such stories were mobilized to describe the passions aroused. This entire spy network in France allegedly was set up by a staffer at a Soviet mission abroad back in 1983, Pierre Pean -- who in no way is embarrassed by the fact that the staffer in question arrived in France just 18 months ago -- has written in LIBERATION. No, he was not acting alone; there were seven of them, a colleague on the newspaper LE FIGARO "corrected" him. (Thierry Volton), another "expert," admitted in the weekly LE POINT that no state secrets were stolen, but Moscow allegedly is interested in everything. In its "disclosure," the TF-1 television station claimed that one in every two Soviet tourists visiting France are on intelligence missions. The USSR Embassy in France appeared for a long time on the screen, and then there were shots of the "good old days" when France expelled a group of diplomats and staffers at several Soviet missions 4 years ago. "We did not expel enough," (Zh. Roshe), former chief of the French special service, lamented on an Antenne-2 program. "There will be more expulsions now," the pundits predict, hinting at access to reliable sources.

The Soviet Union in no way is involved in this spy case, which has been so carefully whipped up by the mass media. This has been brought to the attention of the French authorities. But it seems that the real state of affairs interests no one. A different task is being posed, and feelings, skillfully whipped up by new "disclosures," are running high.

This spy saga with an anti-Soviet slant has a long-term term aim: It is being used to discredit the USSR and, in particular, our proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe, which many have attacked and assessed as a threat to West European, and particularly French, security. At the same time, steps are being taken to patch together a united allied front to oppose the Soviet initiative and call for "firmness" from Washington in the Euromissile talks with Moscow.

Space Cooperation Jeopardized

AU070823 Paris AFP in English 0033 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, April 7 (AFP) -- The head of the Soviet space agency Glavkosmos, Alexandr Dunayev, said on Monday evening that French accusations that Moscow had spied on the European Ariane space rocket project were "ridiculous and naive." He warned that a Franco-Soviet space flight, scheduled for next year, "would no longer be possible if France continued to put obstacles in its way." He told journalists at the Kalingrad Space Centre: "We believe the latest developments should not hinder our co-operation, but we are disturbed by the fuss about Ariane."

He said there was "no technological reason" why Moscow should want to steal Ariane secrets "as we have our own launcher, Proton, which we have been using for 20 years." He said the row had been orchestrated by people who did not want the co-operation to go ahead, and that it was within the power of French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond to ensure that it did. Paris has announced the expulsion of six Soviet citizens from France, following the unmasking of an alleged spy ring in the northern French city of Rouen, near the plant that manufactures Ariane's rocket motor, and Moscow has ordered six French citizens to leave.

Jean-Loup Chretien, one of the French spacemen due to go up in next year's flight, said his training programme at the Star City Centre near Moscow was going ahead as normal.

Satellite, Anti-USSR Campaign

LD062258 Moscow TASS in English 2240 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Paris April 7 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

Quoting specialised American publications, the Paris press reported on Monday that the French "civilian" earth satellite "Spot" was filling the Pentagon's orders for space photographs of closed military targets on Soviet territory. The press said that the equipment of the satellite guaranteed good quality and resolution and that the photographs taken by it clearly showed objects with a diametre of some 10 metres.

Officially, Spot was launched for agriculture and geology, and also to warn against natural disasters. In reality, however, it is working for the U.S. War Department. According to the local press, sources close to the French company Spot-Image, which is operating the satellite, say that this is being done to make the operation more profitable. "Well, well," L'HUMANITE says today, "Paris has thus devised a new form of commerce, sales of spying services, to the detriment of France's relations with the Soviet Union."

The news of the intelligence operations of the French satellite over Soviet territory has highlighted the hypocrisy and falsity of anti-Soviet propaganda spy hysteria whipped up by the French mass media. However, some newspapers and magazines have begun to talk reason and commonsense in the past few days. The current diplomatic conflict is fraught with serious consequences, LE MATIN of France warns.

Public statements made by Minister of the Interior Charles Pasqua have confirmed that the current anti-Soviet hysteria in France has a purely political motivation.

Unlike his far more cautious colleagues in government, who refrain from strident statements these days, he personally contributed to the propaganda campaign and made gross attacks, including personal ones, on Soviet leaders.

Observers attach special attention to his boast that the reorganization of the counter-intelligence services, reduced by previous governments "to a sorry state," contributed to the "uncovering of the spy network."

One is entitled to ask if the current act of anti-Soviet provocation has the sole purpose of demonstrating the "efficiency" of police and the counter-intelligence service in their overhauled shape under the government of the right-wing parties? Are there those in France who, pursuing their petty political goals, are ready badly to jeopardise traditionally good relations with the great power merely to win rightist and extreme rightist votes, which is nevertheless problematic? Are some French politicians myopic and irresponsible to such an extent?

LE FIGARO of Paris has slightly lifted the shroud of secrecy in France over the shadowing of immigrant women from socialist and developing countries who marry Frenchmen. Acording to the newspaper, although technically "liberal" French legislation does not stipulate any restrictions, in practice this control is quite strict, is carried out on a large scale and is supervised by a special arm of the French counter-intelligence service (DST). Moreover, shadowing begins well before the wedding and not even in French territory but in the homeland of the bride, where the French secret services carry out "a most thorough check" in other words, engage in gross spying.

If police have even a shadow of a doubt, the bridegroom is warned officially and can even be transferred to another job if he has a sufficiently high post or is in any way related to industries concerned with defence contracts. Shadowing, naturally, continues after the wedding.

This publication makes it clear why police and DST agents in Rouen found it possible to use gross arbitrary actions, blackmail and threats against Soviet citizen Lyudmila Varigina (Verdier). They seem to feel that they could act with absolute impunity because unwritten instructions to agents justify in such cases even most inhuman methods. The rights of the individual are thus sacrificed to police "efficiency."

Chirac Visit Not Affected

AU070816 Paris AFP in English 0310 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Paris, April 7 (AFP) -- A Moscow visit by French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac will not be affected by expulsions ordered by the French and Soviet Governments over alleged Soviet invovlement in a hi-tech spy ring in France, a senior Soviet official said here Tuesday.

Aleksey Glukhov, who is in Paris for a Franco-Soviet cultural commission, told French radio station Europe-1 that the date of the trip had not been fixed, but that in principal, it should still go ahead. French officials have said the visit was to go ahead in mid-May. Fears had been expressed the France's expulsion order last week against six Soviet Embassy officials and the Kremlin's order that the same number of French national quit Moscow would harm the Chirac visit.

Mr. Glukhov said the Soviet Government had not expelled six French officials, but two groups of three. France at first only announced the expulsion of three Soviet officials and then mentioned the others Sunday, after Moscow announced its reprisal measure. The Soviet official said the second group of French expellees would only leave Moscow if the second group of Soviets left Paris. Mr. Glukhov also said he would raise the "humanitarian" case of "abandoned Soviet children in France." This is thought to refer to Juliette Konyuchenko, 15, whose Soviet mother was killed by her second husband, a Frenchman. The girl now lives with a foster family and refuses to return to the Soviet Union.

PRAVDA ON LUKYANOV'S VISIT TO DENMARK 23-28 MAR

PM011351 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "CPSU Delegation in Denmark"]

[Text] Copenhagen, 28 Mar -- The CPSU delegation that is in Denmark at the invitation of the Danish Social Democratic Party met with E. Weidekamp, mayor of Copenhagen, 27 March. A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and delegation leader, talked about the restructuring under way in the Soviet Union and about the increased role of local soviets in solving the tasks of socialist building and in satisfying the Soviet people's growing needs. The representatives of Copenhagen's local authorities showed interest in strengthening good-neighborly relations between the USSR and Denmark and expressed readiness to promote this process.

The head of the CPSU delegation was received by Danish Prime Minister P. Schlueter. In their talk they touched on questions of ensuring security and peace in Europe. Attention was devoted primarily to questions linked with the implementation of the Soviet peace initiative aimed at eliminating U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe. The head of the Danish Government showed interest in the processes of restructuring in various areas of Soviet society's life, noting their international importance. The prime minister was briefed on the expansion of Soviet industrial enterprises' rights in implementing ties with foreign firms, and on the creation of joint enterprises with the participation of foreign capital, which expand the opportunities for Soviet foreign economic activity. There was an exchange of opinions on the progress in implementing the accords reached during P. Schlueter's October 1986 visit to the Soviet Union -- accords which are of great importance for developing mutually advantageous trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

A news conference was held in the afternoon at the Christiansborg Palace -- the Danish Parliament building -- in which the CPSU delegation and the Danish Social Democratic Party leadership, including party Chairman A. Jorgensen, Deputy Chairman S. Auken, Secretary S. Christensen, and L. Budtz, chairman of the Security and Foreign Policy Commission, took part.

In a statement delivered at the news conference, A.I. Lukyanov made a positive assessment of the results of the talks between the CPSU delegation and the Danish Social Democratic Party leadership and expressed the hope that these meetings will promote the strengthening of relations between the two parties and be of use to both countries' peoples.

The talks with the Danish Social Democratic Party representatives and the meetings which the delegation has had in Denmark have reaffirmed the importance and usefulness of dialogue between Communists and Social Democrats, he stressed. [paragraph continues]

While well aware of the differences in our ideological positions, we at the same time are convinced that this should not be an obstacle to cooperation for the sake of the main task of the day -- the maintenance of peace, the removal of the nuclear threat, the ending of the arms race, and the destruction of nuclear weapons.

We are profoundly convinced, the head of the CPSU delegation continued, that under present conditions we do not need new thinking alone. We need new practical action and bold and vigorous steps. In this regard he mentioned the Soviet Union's large-scale proposals on nuclear disarmament, particularly those set out in the 28 February statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the motives which prompted the Soviet Union to make the decision.

It was noted that the proposals to create nuclear-free zones in various parts of the European Continent are in line with the general efforts aimed at removing the nuclear threat. Pointing out the Soviet Union's support for these initiatives, the CPSU Central Committee secretary spoke in detail about the USSR's approach to the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in the Nordic region. He stressed that the Soviet Union not only states its support for the idea but is taking practical measures to promote it. In particular, these measures were outlined in Helsinki last November.

In developing this position, the Soviet Union reaffirms its support for the idea of giving nuclear-free status to the Baltic Sea within the framework of implementing the proposal for a nuclear-free North, and, as a new manifestation of goodwill, could withdraw 6 submarines equipped with 18 ballistic missiles from the Baltic Fleet if agreement were reached on this issue among the relevant states, he pointed out.

The USSR's readiness to embark on talks on concluding a multilateral agreement with the participants in the zone or on concluding separate agreements with each country, pledging not to use nuclear weapons against them, was reaffirmed.

Talking about the processes taking place in the USSR and in Soviet society's life, the head of the CPSU delegation said that the thrust of the efforts being made to restructure and profoundly renew all aspects of the country's life lies in revealing the potential of socialism to the full. Restructuring means accelerating Soviet economic development on the basis of the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution in the interests of meeting Soviet people's needs increasingly fully and creating better living conditions for them. At the same time the restructuring underway in the Soviet Union does not mean the smashing of our political system, he noted. On the contrary, it is a question of strengthening and developing it and deepening its democratic nature.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary expressed the opinion that the talks between the Danish Social Democratic Party and the CPSU are of great importance. They have demonstrated the two parties' identical concern for the state of affairs in the world and their understanding of the need to develop and strengthen Soviet-Danish cooperation in all areas.

We view Soviet-Danish relations as a weighty component in a wider East-West dialogue, the head of the CPSU delegation said in conclusion.

A. Jorgensen, chairman of the Danish Social Democratic Party, made a short speech expressing satisfaction at the results of the talks, which, in his opinion, were held in a friendly and businesslike atmosphere.

The news conference participants answered journalists' questions.

The head of the CPSU delegation met with Danish Foreign Minister U. Ellemann-Jensen. During the talk a number of international problems relating to security on the European Continent were discussed. An important place was occupied by an examination of certain aspects of the implementation of the Soviet initiative on withdrawing medium-range missiles from Europe and a discussion of the question of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe in light of the results of the meeting of Nordic countries' foreign ministers in Reykjavik, where it was deemed necessary to set up a unified, expert working group to clarify the opportunities for creating such a zone in the region.

The CPSU delegation had a meeting with the Danish Communist Party leadership, during which there was an in-depth exchange of opinions on the content of the restructuring taking place in the Soviet Union. The Danish Communists stressed that the processes taking place in the USSR are of great importance for world development and the communist movement. They made a high assessment of the USSR's recent steps aimed at improving the international atmosphere, in particular the proposal aimed at ridding the European continent of medium-range missiles. The meeting was held in a friendly and relaxed [neprinuzhdennyy] atmosphere.

A.I. Lukyanov met with representatives of Soviet institutions in Denmark. The tasks facing Soviet foreign policy and foreign economic departments and organizations at the present stage were discussed in light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

Lukyanov Completes Visit

PM301327 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Copenhagen, 29 Mar -- A CPSU delegation headed by A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited Denmark at the invitation of the Danish Social Democratic Party 23-28 March.

During its stay in Denmark, the Soviet delegation exchanged views with Social Democratic Party representatives A. Jorgensen, party chairman, S. Auken, deputy chairman and Social Democratic Party political spokesman in the Folketing; S. Christensen, party secretary, O. Espersen, Folketing deputy; L. Budtz, chairman of the Danish Social Democratic Party commission for security and foreign policy questions; and O. Fich, Europarliament deputy.

The talks passed in a friendly atmosphere. The sides discussed primarily questions pertaining to the need to continue efforts to achieve detente and disarmament and in particular problems regarding the elimination of medium-range missiles and operational and tactical weapons from Europe, the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, and its possible geographical boundaries and corresponding guarantees. Questions of conventional arms reduction, nonmilitarization of space, observance of the ABM Treaty, and so forth were also touched upon.

The delegation members met with representatives of the Social Democratic parliamentary party and S. Jakobsen, president of the Folketing. The delegation toured the country, visiting Helsingor, where it inspected the school of the Danish Federation of Trade Unions, Odense and Arhus. It had talks with E. Weidekamp, the mayor of Copenhagen. The head of the CPSU delegation met with Prime Minister P. Schluter and Foreign Minister Ellemann-Jensen.

The CPSU delegation invited representatives of the Danish Social Democratic Party to visit the Soviet Union.

On 28 March the CPSU delegation left Copenhagen.

It was seen off at Kastrup airport by representatives of the Danish Social Democratic Party leadership and B.N. Pastukhov, Soviet ambassador to Denmark.

On the same day, the delegation headed by A.I. Lukyanov returned to Moscow.

It was met at the airport by I.V. Kapitonov, chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Auditing Commission; CPSU Central Committee members V.V. Zagladin and N.I. Savinkin; and others.

SCANDINAVIAN NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE CAMPAIGN VIEWED

PM031159 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 1 Apr 87 p 3

["Commentator's Opinion" by Sergey Astakhov: "For a Nuclear-Free North"]

[Text] The Reykjavik meeting of the foreign ministers of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland, and Sweden ended with a decision to set up a joint working group of experts to study the prerequisites for establishing a nuclar-free zone in Northern Europe. The results of the group's work will form the basis of future political assessments and actions.

For several decades now broad strata of the population in the Scandinavian countries have been waging a struggle for the creation of a nuclear-free zone there. Recently this movement has markedly stepped by its activity under the influence of the Soviet Union's wide-ranging initiatives on disarmament and, in particular, since the Reykjavik meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan, which gave the peoples of the world new hope that the elimination of nuclear weapons is something entirely realistic and feasible. According to Finnish President M. Koivisto, the creation of a nuclear-free zone would contribute to strengthening the atmosphere of trust and make it possible to rule out speculation about the use of nuclear weapons in the region.

It must be said that despite overt opposition from Atlanticists, the plan for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe has won broad support. The credit for this goes to the mass peace movements in the Scandinavian countries, such as "Spring of Peace" in Helsinki, the North European "Treaty Now" organization, and others, and also the backing given to the idea by Scandinavian trade unions. The measures adopted by the USSR Government on dismantling the medium-range missile launch installations on the Kola Peninsula and the majority of the installations in the Leningrad and Baltic Military Districts also had a beneficial influence on this.

The peoples of Northern Europe are increasingly taken with the idea that the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the region will be a major contribution to safeguarding the security of the European Continent. Despite all the obstacles, the peoples of the Scandinavian countries are fully resolved to bring their struggle to create a nuclear-free zone to a victorious conclusion.

ENVOY DELIVERS GORBACHEV MESSAGE TO YAR PRESIDENT

LD062012 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 6 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read TASS report]

[Text] Salih, president of the Yemen Arab Republic, has received (Sitenko), special Soviet representative, and ambassador at large, in Sanaa. The Soviet representative conveyed to the North Yemen leader a message from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on very important bilateral issues, and also on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH COMMITTEE

LD061834 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 06 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 6 TASS -- Palestinian representatives Mahmud 'Abbas of Fatah, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Sulayman al-Najab of the Palestinian Communist Party stayed in Moscow on April 4 and 5 at the invitation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Committee.

In meetings here they spoke of measures currently taken to restore unity in the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and preparations for a session of the National Council of Palestine.

They pointed to the general understanding that the uniting efforts can only be fruitful if pursued on an anti-imperialist basis of principle.

The Soviet side voiced the conviction that the PLO's solidarity and close cooperation with Syria and other Arab anti-imperialist, national patriotic forces is among the more important prerequisites for the Palestinian people's successful struggle for their legitimate national rights.

Stress was made in the meetings on the need for defusing the conflict and normalizing the situation concerning Palestinian camps in Lebanon as soon as possible.

The Palestinian visitors were received at the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

CPSU CABLES GREETINGS TO SYRIA'S AL-ASAD

LD061325 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 06 Apr 87

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has sent Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, a telegram in which it has conveyed cordial greetings to all party members on the occasion of the party's 40th anniversary.

The struggle of the patriots of Syria and other Arab countries against the aggressive policy of imperialism and its accomplices to eliminate the threat of war in the Near East is closely interlocked with efforts by all peace-loving forces to end nuclear confrontation and create an all-embracing system of international security.

An important role in the overall complex of many-sided friendly relations between the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic is played by the ties between the CPSU and the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party and by their cooperation for the good of the Soviet and the Syrian peoples, the telegram stresses.

CYPRUS MAIN TOPIC OF SOVIET TALKS IN NICOSIA

LD062243 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1242 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Nicosia, 6 Apr (TANJUG) -- The Cypriot problem and making efforts to resolve the present deadlock were the main topic of Soviet-Cypriot talks in Nicosia.

Nikolay Afanasyev, head of the Soviet delegation, and director of the USSR Foreign Ministry European Department, said at a press conference in Nicosia today that Moscow's proposal to convene an international conference on Cyprus under the aegis of the United Nations has the full backing of the Cypriot Government. The members of the Soviet delegation have had talks on this in the past few days with President Kiprianou, Foreign Minister Iacovou, and [words indistinct].

Afanasyev explained that the intended meeting between the Soviet delegation and Rauf Denktash, head of the Turkish Cypriot community, was called off because the Turkish Cypriots tried to portray this meeting as a change in the Soviet stance.

Afanasyev also took the opportunity to reiterate that the USSR does not recognize Denktash's so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" and that there are no changes in the Soviet position. However, contacts with representatives of the Turkish Cypriots will be continued through the USSR Embassy in Nicosia, the head of the Soviet delegation said.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS EGYPTIAN PRE-ELECTION SCENE

PM061017 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[D. Velikiy "Letter from Cairo": "Egypt on the Eve of Elections"]

[Text] Cairo is in the grip of Khamasin and election fever. The Khamasin (the name of the wind that blows sand in from the desert once a year at the same time) is ruffling the election appeals from the different parties and the posters with pictures of the candidates have been stuck up all over the city. But whereas the Khamasin is a seasonal phenomenon which can easily be forecast a year in advance, the decision to hold extraordinary elections to Egypt's National Assembly (parliament) on 6 April was rather a surprise. The decision was adopted after a referendum in February, when the question of the parliament's fate was submitted for nationwide debate. Some 90 percent of those who voted advocated that the current National Assembly be dissolved.

On the eve of the elections the television is regularly relaying appeals to the electorate from the leaders of the various parties. Acute discussions between the supporters of one candidate or another continue in the newspapers. [paragraph continues]

Different parties, different newspapers, different opinions. However, in all the multiplicity of electoral platforms and positions there is one common denominator -- concern at the lamentable state of the country's economy. Speaking in Luxor the other day, Egyptian President H. Mubarak stressed that all the tasks facing the government must be considered secondary to the task of overcoming the economic difficulties.

As chairman of the ruling National Democratic Party, H. Mubarak promised to solve the country's economic problems within 2-4 years. He named the improvement of Egypt's infrastructure as the main condition for ensuring this.

This time the electoral battle is not proceeding in quite the usual way. For the first time an opposition bloc has been formed comprising the Socialist Labor Party [SLP], the Liberal Socialist Party, and the officially banned "Muslim Brotherhood" organization, whose representatives will run under the SLP banner.

The program put forward by this alliance proclaims the need for comprehensive economic reform and states the impermissibility of foreign interference in drawing up government economic policy. As for the "open door" policy, it should be transformed into a "source for strengthening independence," SLP leaders and their supporters state. One of the aims of the coalition is to bring the constitution and legislation into line with the Muslim Shari'ah.

Ordinary Egyptians greeted the manifesto of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party [NPUG] with approval. It puts forward demands to stabilize prices for prime necessities, to guarantee all citizens comfortable housing, free medical care in state clinics, and general education, and to raise the minimum wage.

The foreign policy section of the NPUG program stressed the need to turn the Near East and the Mediterranean into a zone free of nuclear weapons. The NPUG also supports the just struggle of the Arab people of Palestine and calls for an end to the Iran-Iraq war and the solution of the Lebanon problem on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon.

Apart from the aforesaid political organizations, representatives of the al-Ummah and al-Wafd Parties and certain independent candidates are also taking part in the elections. One of them went so far as to propose setting up in Egypt an industry to produce... narcotics and to use the profits it generated to pay off the country's foreign debt!

The local press reports that the election period has seen increased activity by religious extremists, who have provoked disturbances in a number of towns in Upper Egypt -- particularly Sawhaj, where the authorities have even had to impose a curfew.

REPORTAGE ON GILASHVILI DELEGATION IN AFRICA

Meets With Zimbabwean Officials

PM301043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Guests of Zimbabwe"]

[Text] Harare, 27 Mar -- D. Mutasa, member of the Politburo and secretary for foreign affairs of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front [ZANU-PF] and speaker of the House of Assembly, has stated that maintaining world peace and curbing the arms race are the most urgent problems of the present day whose solution requires united action from all countries.

He was addressing a meeting held here on 26 March between Zimbabwean members of parliament and a visiting group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies headed by P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Zimbabwe fully supports the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy course and considers that the constructive proposals on creating a nuclear-free world put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, are in accord with mankind's fundamental interests.

The ZANU-PF Politburo member pointed out that the apartheid regime in South Africa and its policy of terror and destabilization are the chief source of tension in the region. South Africa, he pointed out, resorts to acts of armed intervention against "Frontline" States and uses the puppet gangs of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola against Angola and the Mozambique National Resistance against Mozambique and various kinds of subversive elements against Zimbabwe.

D. Mutasa expressed gratitude to the USSR for its invariable assistance to the freedom movements of southern Africa and the "Frontline" States in their struggle against the apartheid regime.

The delegation was received on the same day by Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Witness Mangwende. He spoke highly of the process of restructuring and democratizing the life of society under way in the Soviet Union. The successful resolution of questions of speeding up socioeconomic development, the minister stressed, will further strengthen the USSR's authority in the international arena and give powerful boost to all countries, including Zimbabwe, who have chosen the path of building socialism.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies laid a wreath at a monument to the heroes who gave their lives in the struggle for Zimbabwe's freedom and independence.

Departs For Tanzania

LD290036 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Harare March 28 TASS -- The group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies led by Pavel Gilashvili, vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has wound up the visit to the Zimbabwe Republic. In the course of the meetings and talks the Soviet MPS exchanged views with Simbabwe's statesmen and public figure on bilateral relations [word indistinct] discussed in detail the tense situation in southern Africa.

The sides reaffirmed the identity of their views on the basic international issues, above all, the issues pertaining to strengthening peace and universal security. The group of deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who have already visited Angola, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, left for Tanzania by air today.

Arrival in Dar es Salaam

LD300247 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] The group of deputies from the USSR Supreme Soviet who are touring the Frontline States of southern Africa and who have visited Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, have arrived in Tanzania. Our correspondent Anatoliy Doronin reports from Dar es Salaam:

[Begin Doronin recording] Members of the group include Pavel Georgiyevich Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chairman of the Presidium of the Georgian Supreme Soviet, and leader of the delegation; Mukhamed Sayfitdinovich Asimov, president of the Tajikistan Academy of Sciences, and Ukrainian writer Pavel Arkhipovich Zagrebelnyy.

In his press statement at Dar es Salaam airport, the head of the Soviet delegation stressed that the purpose of the visit to Tanzania is to discuss topical international issues, including the situation in southern Africa and other topics of mutual interest with the representatives of the country's National Assembly and party and state figures. We are convinced, emphasized the head of the Soviet delegation, that such meetings are necessary and useful, particularly now, when the situation in the world has deteriorated seriously, through the fault of imperialism.

On behalf of the parliament and the Government of Tanzania, National Assembly Speaker Adam Sapi Mkwawa warmly welcomed the USSR Supreme Soviet deputies. He expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union for its all-round aid, both moral and material, to the fighters for the elimination of the apartheid system in the republic of South Africa and the granting of independence to Namibia.

On Monday the USSR Supreme Soviet deputies will get to know the work of the National Assembly of Tanzania. In accordance with the program for the visit, they will also meet some members of the government. In connection with the visit of the Soviet parliamentarians, the local press is noting that such exchanges facilitate the expansion of mutual understanding and the strengthening of friendship between the Soviet Union and Tanzania. [end recording]

Meets Tanzanian Leaders

PM031153 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS reports under the general headline "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 31 Mar -- The group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies headed by P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is visiting here has been received by S.A. Salim, deputy prime minister and defense minister of Tanzania. The Soviet Union gives effective moral and material support to the cause of southern Africa's liberation, he said. The Soviet parliamentarians' tour of a number of "Frontline" States is both important and useful.

On the USSR Supreme Soviet's behalf, the leader of the Soviet parliamentarians' group wished the friendly Tanzanian people peace, happiness, and prosperity. We have observed with satisfaction, he noted, that mutual assistance and cooperation exists among the "Frontline" States in the struggle against the racist South African regime.

The Soviet parliamentarians had meetings and conversations with B. Mkapa, Tanzanian foreign minister, and A.S. Mkwawa, speaker of the republic's National Assembly. The exchange of opinions on international problems concerning the situation in South Africa, the prospects for resolving the crisis situation that has taken shape there, and the "Frontline" States' role in settling this problem was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Bilateral relations were also discussed during meetings with Tanzanian statesmen. In the words of the leader of the USSR Supreme Soviet deputies' group, "the barometer is set 'fair' on these questions."

The speaker of the National Assembly gave a dinner in the Soviet parliamentarians' honor.

Dar es Salaam, 31 Mar -- The group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies headed by P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is visisting here has been received by Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinya. He analyzed in detail the situation in southern Africa and described the "Frontline" States' joint struggle for the region's complete liberation. The head of the republic also showed great interest in the course of the restructuring of all areas of life that is taking place in the USSR.

Today the deputies' group was received Tanzanian Prime Minister Joseph Warioba.

Gilashvili Press Conference

EA010944 Dakar PANA in English 1720 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam, 31 Mar (SHIHATA/PANA) -- The Soviet Union yesterday reaffirmed its unflinching support for the liberation struggle in southern Africa, saying that the time had come for apartheid to be dismantled. The vice-chairman of the Presidium of the Soviet Union, Pavel Gilashvili, told a news conference in the Tanzanian capital that his country would increase assistance to liberation movements in southern Africa.

Gilashvili, who was in Dar es Salaam on the last leg of his tour of the Frontline States, said he had fruitful talks with senior government officials on bilateral and international issues, as well as on the deteriorating situation in southern Africa. He said the people and the CPSU would continue to assist the six Frontline States -- Angola, Botswana, Mozambique,Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe -- in fighting apartheid and South African occupation forces in mineral-rich Namibia.

Apartheid is not the enemy of the Frontline States alone, but is the enemy of the Soviet Union and peace loving countries all over the world, Gilashvili said. He stated that peace could not prevail in the southern Africa [words indistinct] the Frontline States and other neighbouring African countries. You are not alone in the struggle. We are with you and we will continue to support you until apartheid is abolished, the leader of the Soviet delegation said.

Gilashvili also pledged an emergency food relief assistance to some 4,000,000 people suffering from hunger in war-torn Mozambique, although he did not mention the size of the food relief the Soviet Union would give to the former Portuguese colony. [passage omitted]

Ends Tanzania Visit

PM021559 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Departure from Tanzania"]

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 1 Apr -- A group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies headed by P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has ended its visit to Tanzania. The Soviet parliamentarians had useful conversations with Tanzanian state and party leaders. Before their departure from Dar es Salaam they were received by President of the Republic A.H. Mwinya and Prime Minister J. Warioba.

According to the common view of Soviet parliamentarians, the conversations with Tanzanian state, party, and public figures helped the development of bilateral relations and the strengthening of friendship between the peoples of Tanzania and the USSR.

CONTINUED REPORTAGE ON MOZAMBIQUE DELEGATION VISIT

Rebelo Interviewed

LD020256 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] A party and government delegation of Mozambique is continuing its visit to the Soviet Union. It came to this country to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Mozambique. Here is what he said in an interview to our reporter, a member of the Political Bureau, a secretary of the Central Committee of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party, Jorge Rebelo, who heads the Mozambican delegation:

[Begin recording] [Question] What can you say about the impact of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique on the development of friendly ties between the two countries?

[Rebelo in Portuguese with superimposed English translation] Let's try to ask the question in another way. If the treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two countries did not exist, could relations between the Soviet Union and Mozambique reach the present level? We believe they could not. Relations between the two countries existed before, but they were in blueprints, so to say. They were based, and they continue to be based, on the help rendered by the Soviet Union to Mozambican people in their struggle for national liberation, on our common ideology and the socialist way pursued by both countries. But these relations lacked a certain line, a framework of concrete actions and a prospect. All these points were reached when the treaty was signed.

After signing of the treaty there have been intensive development and broadening of cooperation between the two countries in different fields. Besides political and military fields, which have been traditional forms of cooperation between our countries, the Soviet Union began to help us in education, the health services, agricultural development, mineral prospecting, fishing, and construction, and these are but a few fields of our cooperation. Besides, consultations have become more frequent between our parties and governments on burning present-day problems. We also exchange experience in handling our internal affairs. The Soviet Union has recently supplied to Mozambique 20 million roubles worth of goods.

I've mentioned already Soviet assistance to our country in the military area. The Soviet Union has been helping decisively in strengthening our defensive potential which has made it possible for us to oppose the aggressive claims by racist South Africa.

You may know that a program for economic rehabilitation is being implemented in our country. This is rather an ambitious program aimed at promoting economic and social development of Mozambique. Priority attention is being given to advancing our agriculture. Mozambique is an agrarian country, and naturally this line of our development must be reflected first and foremost in any development program. Within the national agriculture, preference is given to the private sector which now yields 70 percent of the country's farm produce. Implementation of the program naturally requires considerable funds, and the Soviet Union has expressed readiness to support us in implementing this program which is quite in the spirit of our relations, registered in the treaty on friendship and cooperation. That's why I think this treaty has been having a favorable effect on our bilateral relations. [end recording]

Departs Moscow

LD020905 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 2 TASS -- A Mozambican party and state delegation led by Jorge Rebelo, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, left Moscow today.

The delegation stayed in the USSR to attend celebrations marking the 10th anniversary of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Mozambique.

CPSU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BRAZZAVILLE 1 APR

LD012236 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet Communist Party, led by an alternate member of the Central Committee, Andrey Girenko, left Moscow for Brazzaville on Wednesday. The visit is arranged under the plan of contacts between the Soviet Communist Party and the Congolese Workers' party which provides for a regular exchange of experience of party work. The Soviet delegation intends to acquaint itself with the agrarian policy of the Congolese Workers' party, including the measures taken to increase agricultural production and make the country self-reliant in food. The Soviet side in turn will inform the Congolese side of the main areas of party work at the present stage to promote the course of the 27th congress aimed at accelerating the nation's development and restructuring all the spheres of life in Soviet society.

KGB'S CHEBRIKOV COMPLETES CUBAN VISIT; RECEIVES AWARD

LD030558 Moscow TASS in English 0548 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] Havana April 3 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Voropaev reports:

A ceremony of presenting the Order of Playa Jiron to Viktor Chebrikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR State Security Committee, has been held here in the Palace of the Revolution. Viktor Chebrikov is staying here on an official friendly visit. He was awarded this honorary decoration for a major contribution to the development and consolidation of all-round cooperation and fraternal friendship between peoples of the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The Order of Playa Jiron was presented to him by General of the Army Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, first deputy Chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and the government of the country gave a reception for Viktor Chebrikov which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The reception was attented by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic, as well as other party and state leaders.

Departs Havana for Moscow

LD040008 Moscow TASS in English 2157 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] Havana April 4 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security V.M. Chebrikov, who was on an official friendly visit in Havana at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and the Cuban Government, left for home today.

At the Jose Marti International Airport he was seen off by the Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist party of Cuba, First Deputy Chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers of the Republic, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces General of the Army Raul Castro and other officials. The sendoff party included member of the CPSU Central Committee, Ambassador of the USSR in the Republic of Cuba A.S. Kapto.

Shevardnadze Greets Chebrikov

LD041313 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 4 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security, returned to Moscow today from Havana. He had been in the Republic of Cuba on an official, friendly visit at the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's government.

At the airport he was met by Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Bobkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

The welcoming party included Mirabal, Cuba's interim charge d'affaires in the Soviet Union.

SHARIN-LED CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR BOLIVIA

LD292037 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1623 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 29 Mar (TASS) -- At the invitation of the Bolivian Communist Party a CPSU delegation, headed by Leonid Sharin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Amur Obkom, left Moscow by air for La Paz today.

Meets Party Leaders

LD022140 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1922 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (TASS) -- A meeting took place here today between the leaders of the Communist Party of Bolivia [CPB] and a CPSU delegation which has arrived here at the invitation of the CPB Central Committee, led by Leonid Sharin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and first secretary of the Amur CPSU Obkom. Problems of the international Communist movement as well as questions of cooperation between the CPB and the CPSU were examined during the conversation.

Simon Reyes, first secretary of the CPB Central Committee, dwelt on the Communist Party's activities in the difficult circumstances that Bolivia is experiencing. He noted that Bolivian Communists have been urged to promote the unification of all the country's Left-wing forces into a single front. S. Reyes declared himself to be in favor of the further strengthening of interparty links with the CPSU on the basis of the principles of proletarian internationalism in the course of the joint struggle for peace, disarmament, social progress, democracy and socialism.

The head of the CPSU delegation spoke of the struggle of the Communists of the Soviet Union for restructuring in all areas of the political and socioeconomic life of Soviet society. He expressed the conviction that the proposals and arguments put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum would be of use to the fraternal parties in other countries when resolving the ideological-political, organizational and personnel problems confronting them.

Sharin Meets Vice President

PM031544 Mosow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Stay"]

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr -- Bolivian Vice President Julio Garrett received a CPSU delegation headed by L.V. Sharin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and first secretary of Amur CPSU Obkom, which is here on a visit at the invitation of the Communist Party of Bolivia Central Committee. In the course of the talk questions of mutual interest were touched on, in particular prospects for further cooperation between the two countries.

Julio Garrett noted the exceptionally great international significance of the Soviet peace intiatives aimed at eliminating all nuclear arsenals, and stressed that Bolivia fully supports them, since they accord with the interests of all mankind. The Bolivian vice president also noted that Bolivians are following with great attention the positive new trends in Soviet society's socioeconomic and political life and the process of restructuring which has begun in the USSR and the important steps in the sphere of democratization.

On the same day the CPSU delegation had meetings with Willy Vargas Vacaflor, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress, and Ciro Humbold Barrero, chairman of the Senate. The Bolivian figures came out in favor of the further development of relations between the two countries in the political, economic, and cultural spheres, and in particular the strengthening of interparliamentary ties.

MEXICAN PARTY LEADER RECEIVES KOMMUNIST'S FROLOV

PM011111 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Appraisal"]

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Mar -- A meeting took place here on Sunday [30 March] between the CPSU delegation headed by I.T. Frolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST, and Pablo Gomez, general secretary of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM] Central Committee.

Questions concerning the international situation and Mexico's domestic political situation, as well as PSUM-CPSU relations, were discussed. Both sides' desire to develop and strengthen the friendly ties between the two parties was emphasized.

The CPSU delegation has been attending the Third PSUM Congress, which as ended its work in Mexico City.

PRAVDA NOTES MEXICAN LEFT PARTIES' MERGER PLAN

PM061101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 87 First Edition p 6

[TASS report: "In the Struggle for Unity"]

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Mar -- The Third Congress of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) has ended in Mexico. The congress approved a proposal put forward by the PSUM leadership and four other left-wing political organizations to merge into a single party with a view to stepping up the Mexican people's struggle for democracy, socialism, and the defense of national sovereignty. A draft agreement on the merger for this October, and a draft program and statutes of the new left-wing party were adopted.

The congress elected a new 86-member PSUM Central Committee. At its first plenum the Central Committee elected the party's leading organs -- the Political Commission and the Central Committee Secretariat and also PSUM representatives to the five-party coordination commission which is to prepare the merger.

Pablo Gomez was reelected general secretary of the PSUM Central Committee.

Addressing the closing session of the congress, P. Gomez emphasized that the next 6 months will be a period of hard work. A great deal of work will have to be done to ensure that the future left-wing party, which will hold socialist, anti-imperialist positions, really does unite the country's best forces and become the vanguard in the struggle for the working people's vital interests and the implementation of socialist transformations. The PSUM, as the country's most influential left-wing party, pledges to use its long-standing experience of struggle for the ideas of socialism in Mexico in the creation of a new mass left-wing party.

URUGUAYAN PRESIDENT WELCOMES NEW SOVIET ENVOY

PM021101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Uruguay: Presidential Statement"]

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Mar -- Diplomatic relations have now been maintained between Uruguay and the USSR for more than 60 years, Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti stated here. He was speaking during the ceremony in which I.K. Laptev, USSR ambassador to Uruguay, presented his credentials.

Welcoming the new Soviet ambassador on behalf of his country's people and government, the president noted the development of cultural ties between the two countries and the existence of constant trade relations and expressed his wish for the volume of trade between Uruguay and the USSR to increase. We are seeking to further develop relations with the Soviet Union, Julio M. Sanguinetti said.

PRENSA LATINA INTERVIEWS CHILEAN SOCIALIST LEADER

LD060845 Moscow TASS in English 0708 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Havana April 6 TASS -- Clodomiro Almeyda, general secretary of the Socialist Party of Chile, has stated the need for the unity of all democratic forces of Chile in the name of overthrowing the Pinochet dictatorship.

He gave an interview to the PRENSA LATINA news agency from Chile Chico where the Pinochet regime keeps him in political isolation following his return home in defiance of the authorities' ban after many years of living in emigration.

"The unity of the democratic forces and of all peoples is an earnest of triumph over the dictatorship", Clodomiro Almeyda pointed out.

"I am convinced that the unity of the people and international solidarity will make it possible to bring Chile back to democracy and to set about the socio-economic development of the country with the participation of all national forces".

He also called on all organizations around the world, which solidarise with the Chilean patriots, to come out in support of the demands that all Chileans who have to live outside the country be granted the right to return home.

DEMICHEV ON FORTHCOMING ELECTION CAMPAIGN

LD052323 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1605 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Interview with Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, by political observer Viktor Beketov; first two paragraphs are introduction with Beketov reporting from outside USSR Supreme Soviet Building; place of interview and date not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Beketov] Elections to the local soviets of people's deputies will take place on 21 June. They will be taking place at a qualitatively new stage of our development, in conditions of radical restructuring of the country's economic and social life. As has been noted during the CPSU Central Comittee January Plenum, our electoral system cannot remain in an ossified state, either. The point is to deepen its democratization and enhance the role of elective bodies.

Numerous letters from the working people, posing questions connected with the forthcoming election campaign have recently been arriving at central organizations, mass media, and, in particular, at the television station.

We have asked Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to answer the most typical of these questions. [video shows Beketov seated across long table facing Demichev] Petr Nilovich, what are the main distinguishing features of the forthcoming elections and the entire election campaign?

[Demichev] The forthcoming elections will be taking place after the party's 27th congress and after the January plenum. As is known, the situation in our country is changing, conditions are changing. The ever-deepening restructuring process, democratization in all spheres of social life, and openness are underway; active discussion of, shall we say, the most important state documents is in progress. I have in mind the discussion of the draft Law on Enterprises (Associations) which is currently being debated so actively both at meetings, in the mass information media, in the press, on television, on radio, and so forth.

All this testifies to the fact that the situation has now really undergone a radical change. Let me also say political and labor activeness of the working people is growing. This is particularly noticeable this year; after all, it is the year of the 70th Great October Socialist Revolution anniversary.

Apart from that, the well-known decision, made on 25 July 1986 -- I have in mind the decision of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers -- on measures to further enhance the responsibility and expand the rights of the Soviets will exert on the whole pre-election atmosphere and the election campaign. [as heard]

The local soviets and the soviets from, one can say, the top to the bottom, currently bear complete responsibility for solving social and economic problems and the soviets bear total responsibility for the development, the comprehensive development of their territories. The most important document sets numerous new tasks for soviets and this will naturally leave an imprint on the election campaign, as well.

It is essential that, say, the elected deputies should, by their practical and political qualities, by their principled and creative approach, by their skill in working with people, be up to those great tasks the document defines. This is a distinguishing feature of the current election campaign and it will, naturally, be of very important significance in ensuring that the most worthy and talented deputies are indeed elected; those capable of successfully solving the tasks facing soviets in the conditions of restructuring, in the conditions of great historical tasks, in the conditions of what are, in essence, revolutionary transformations in our life.

[Beketov] Many of the questions that we are asked by television viewers concern the organization of the elections, the practice of nominating and discussing candidacies, and the voting procedure. What is there that is new in the sense that is going to make its appearance in the forthcoming elections?

[Demichev] Of course I will say what is new in the forthcoming elections, but first of all I want to stress that the elections are going to take place largely according to the old electoral system, the system that is in operation at the present time. I would like to say that very important democratic norms are laid down in this system, norms that in the past have unfortunately not always been fully observed.

A very important stage in the election campaign is the nomination of candidates. In many places as a rule they used to nominate one candidate and they discussed one candidate at the pre-election meetings. Now we recommend that there should not be one candidate but two, three, or perhaps even more -- and that the qualities of each candidate, their businesslike, political, and moral qualities, their principled attitude, their ability to work with people and to decide the important issues of state that deputies are faced with should really be discussed in a comprehensive way at pre-election meetings and gatherings. It is desirable for nominations to be made, say, not only at meetings but that their own candidates should be nominated by organizations like, say, the Komsomol, the women's councils -- that is a new organization and under the constitution and under the law on elections it also has the right to nominate its candidates....

[Beketov, interrupting] The Veterans' Councils.

[Demichev] The Councils of War and Labor Veterans, and other public organizations. This, too, will be of great importance when representatives of different social groups and strata of the population are represented in the soviets. The meeting of the candidate with the voters is a very important point. In the past meetings in the main have taken place "across the table on the platform," one might say.

[Beketov] Yes, in an official way.

[Demichev] In an official and formal atmosphere. We consider that the meetings have to begin immediately after the nomination of the candidates. The nomination of candidates to become soviet deputies begins on 13 April and it is very important for the candidates to be able to call on voters both in small groups and with individuals and to establish continuing relationships.

[Beketov] It seems to me this is also important for the candidate-deputies themselves, to make them better prepared for their forthcoming responsibilities as deputies, to make sure they know the things people are asking.

[Demichev] Absolutely.

[Beketov] This evidently concerns elections for local soviets particularly?

[Demichev] Yes, and we consider that it is, of course, not just during the period of the election campaign that the candidate and then the deputy has to maintain this kind of constant link with his voters, reporting back to the voters, say, not just once a year, but that this constant link will help both the deputy and the soviet in their work. It will also assist the solution of those vital needs that have to be solved in this constituency.

[Beketov] But, Petr Nilovich, there are also traditional forms of people contacting each other, for example rural assemblies, and some kinds of national forms. Are these now being taken into account in preparations for the elections?

[Demichev] We recommend that gatherings should also take place at rural assemblies and at meetings of residents by place of residence, and they also have the right to nominate candidates. This is very important, because people who live in the countryside know those who live in the same village very well; they know their qualities, they know who can be entrusted with this important mission of being a representative of this people, of this village. There is another important point here: I am talking about the voting. In the first elections following the adoption of the constitution of 1936, as a rule all voters went into voting booths. Then one way or another this practice began to fall away more and more. We receive a lot of letters and statements from working people who still suggest that the closed nature of the voting should really be preserved, the secrecy...

[Beketov, interrupting] The secret nature.

[Demichev] The secret nature of the elections, that all voters should pass through the voting booths and then drop their ballot papers into the ballot box.

[Beketov] Particular interest among voters is being aroused by the decision to hold elections experimentally according to enlarged constituencies. Could you talk about this in greater detail?

[Demichev] I would like to say that the experiment will be on a fairly large scale. This experiment is going to be conducted in 163 rayons. If you want to take the number of soviets, it is more than 2,300. What do these experimental constituencies, so to speak, amount to? They are going to be enlarged constituencies. One constituency, say, will be formed out of three currently operating constituencies. Three deputies have to be elected in this enlarged constituency. The number standing will be greater than three; say, five candidates. Three deputies from out of the five candidates will be elected; those who get more than half of the votes. That is probably the main essence of this experiment.

[Beketov] Yes, but it is possible for all the candidate-deputies to receive more than half of the votes. What is going to happen then?

[Demichev] In the first place I have to say that the concept of the reserve-deputy is now being introduced. All deputies who receive more than half of the votes will indeed become deputies, but the three deputies who get the greatest number of votes will become deputies, and the remainder who have received more than half of the votes will become reserve-deputies.

The reserve-deputy receives the appropriate certificate, he takes part in the work of the session, and has the right to a consultative vote.

He also enjoys the other rights of a deputy. In the event of one of the deputies from the constituency in question is leaving, then the reserve-deputy who has received a greater number of votes than the others -- more than half, of course -- well he becomes a property deputy and takes part in the work as a deputy with all the responsibilities this involves; as they say, responsibilities which are placed upon the deputy.

[Beketov] Are there similar examples in electoral practice abroad?

[Demichev] There are. Let us say, for instance, that such enlarged constituencies exist in the GDR. They have already held elections there and I know that reserve-deputies there become the sitting deputies in a number of cases.

[Beketov] What about those who fail to be elected altogether, those who poll less than 50 percent of votes? What would you say to them, by way of consolation, as it were?

[Demichev] Well, I think it is pointless to be upset here. In the first place -- and this is obvious -- one has to get accustomed to this, it is democracy and we have to get accustomed to the new conditions of wider democracy. We have to get used to and accept this situation. Well, what can one day here? All the same, it is the best people that are proposed as candidates, and this alone is already a great honor and mark of respect for him. That is why it is completely senseless to get depressed and upset, nor are there any grounds for it. Everyone will know that here is a man who stood as a candidate and maybe he will be elected next time.

[Beketov] He will probably stop to think that, all the same, he has qualities which prevented him from joining the first three men. He will probably draw conclusions for himself.

[Demichev] Well, I think that he will draw some conclusions for himself; likewise others will also draw appropriate conclusions, because if, say, they failed to take something into account, it represents a lesson for the future.

[Beketov] Petr Nilovich, we have touched on the changes due to affect the next elections. How will our electoral system be improved further in the further.

[Demichev] You know it was said both at the party's 27th congress and at the January plenum that it is necessary to work to compile a new Electoral System Law, elections law. This work is currently being implemented. In the first place, this experiment is already a step in this direction. The results of the experiment will be analyzed in detail and the extent to which this system is acceptable in our conditions of the ever deepening process of democratization will be studied.

Apart from that, we are currently studying, at the Supreme Soviet Presidium, together with appropriate institutes, the experience of the fraternal socialist countries in which a great deal of what is new and interesting in the electoral practice has also appeared, as well as the experience of other democratic countries. We also want to better analyze our own, great experience. After all, it is 70 years and it has to be said that our system, that one now in operation has, on the whole, made it possible for us to elect the best representatives to the Soviets.

That is why this experience cannot be crossed out and thrown out either. At the January plenum Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev spoke about Lenin's legacy, about his ideas and works, about Soviet democratism. In our time, in the conditions of restructuring, these ideas are very topical, too.

[Beketov] Thanks for the interview, Petr Nilovich.

Elections Called 'Practical'

LD010835 Moscow TASS in English 0532 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 1 TASS -- A Soviet official has described an experiment to be staged in local government elections in this country next summer as representing a practical search for ways of further democratizing its electoral system.

Yuriy Korolyov, department chief at the Secretariat of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of the USSR, was commenting in a TASS interview on a recent decision to hold multicandidate-slate voting in some electoral districts.

"These multicandidacy districts will be formed by merging several former neighboring electoral districts, each of which was previously entitled to return a single deputy to serve on the local governing council." He explained.

"A multicandidacy district will return as many deputies as there are former electoral districts within its borders -- three, four or five.

"The novelty will be not only in enlarging electoral districts but also in altering the established practice of nominating candidates." Korolyov added.

"Neither the national constitution nor the Soviet electoral law specify the number of candidates to run for a place on a governing council. The established practice, however, provided for nominating, as a rule, one candidate for each available place." He continued.

"In the enlarged experimental districts the number of candidates will exceed the number of contested seats.

"If a district, for example, is entitled to return three deputies, the number of candidates may be five, six or seven -- the specific number is for the voters themselves to decide," Korolyov said.

This year's experiment, which will introduce new democratic elements into Soviet electoral practice, will affect more than 2,000 governing councils at village, rural community, city and district level. All in all, the country has over 50,000 such local councils which are called Soviets of people's deputies.

"The experiment will be an experiment and we shall judge its results later," Korolyov said.

"Taking them into account, changes will apparently be made also to the Soviet electoral system, which was among the issues discussed by the party's Central Committee at its plenum last January," he concluded.

ACADEMIC ON ROLE OF PARTY CONFERENCES

PM311507 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed interview with Prof Yu.A. Bondar, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism Party Building Department, under the "Questions and Answers" rubric: "All-Union Party Conferences" -- date and place not given]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum decided to hold an all-union party conference. The revival of this form of party work has prompted readers to ask about conferences' role and status. We asked Doctor of Historical Sciences Professor V.Ya. Bondar, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism Party Building Department, to answer those questions.

[Question] Vasiliy Yakovlevich, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA readers would like to know the difference between a congress and a party conference and whether there are any differences in their status and powers.

[Bondar] As is well known, the congress is the party's supreme and most sovereign organ. Its powers and functions are very extensive.

/General party conferences are a form of collective discussion of urgent questions of party policy and vital problems of party work between congresses./ [passage within slantlines published in boldface] They are convened as necessary by the party Central Committee. Before the October Revolution's victory the basis for holding them was the Third RSDWP [Russian Social Democratic Workers Party] Congress resolution "on Periodical Conferences of Representatives of Various Party Organizations." After the October Revolution the convening of general party conferences for the first time in the rules adopted by the Eighth All-Russian Conference of the RCP(B) [Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks)] in December 1919.

There have been 18 party conferences: The first was in December 1905, the last in February 1941.

[Question] So conference delegates were elected in the same way as for congresses -- according to the norms of representation?

[Bondar] At first there were no firm principles in the organization of conferences. The composition of conference participants was determined according to a procedure determined by the party Central Committee. For example, the first RSDWP conference was organized by the delegates who had assembled for a routine party congress which was not held because of the rapid development of revolutionary events. The eighth conference, for example, was convened on the basis of a predetermined norm of representation. After the 18th ACP(B) [All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks)] Congress delegates were elected according to the rules adopted at the congress and at plenums of obkoms, kraykoms, and union republic Communist Party Central Committees. Furthermore, the election procedure and the norms of representation were established by the party Central Committee. The correlation between delegates with a full vote and those with only a consultative role varied at different times. The periodicity of conferences also varied.

[Question] What was the historical combination of the two forms -- congresses and all-party conferences -- in the life of the party? What is their fundamental significance in formulating the party's strategy and tactics and in establishing the democratic principles of life within the party?

[Bondar] Although the conferences' powers are not the same as those of congresses, as I have already said, their agendas did cover a broad range of problems in the party's activity. For example, such very important issues as the agrarian question, the nationalities question, and problems of tactics and party building were discussed at them. It is from this fact that we should perhaps proceed when discussing the combination of the activity of congresses and conferences.

Some all-party conferences met at crucial moments in the revolutionary struggle and, like congresses, made decisions which determined the party's long-term activity, elected the Central Committee, or altered its composition.

The place and powers of conferences among the party's supreme bodies were first defined in detail in the rules approved at the 18th ACP(B) Congress in 1939. The all-union conference was ranked after the congress and the Central Committee. It was empowered to replace a proportion of the Central Committee members, in other words, to remove from the Central Committee individual members who had failed to perform their duties and to replace them with others, but within the limit of not more than one-fifth of the Central Committee as elected by the party congress. The conference could reinforce the Central Committee with members from among the Central Committee candidate members elected by the party congress and elect the corresponding number of new Central Committee candidate members in their place. The all-union conference's decisions were subject to approval by the party Central Committee, with the exception of the decision to replace Central Committee members and elect new candidate members to the Central Committee. Central Committee members who were not delegates from local organizations took part in the work of the conference as delegates with a consultative vote.

[Question] Although the party norms provided for the possibility of convening party conferences, none has actually been held for a long time. Why is that?

[Bondar] It should be borne in mind above all that the rules approved by the 19th and 20th party congresses did not provide for the holding of such conferences at all. It was not until the 23d CPSU Congress that it was deemed necessary to make such an entry in the rules, even after that conferences were not held. Why?

The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum noted that in the late seventies and early eighties party organs did not pay due attention to the strict observance of Leninist principles and norms of party life. Collegiality in work was breached and the role of elective organs was undermined. For a number of years quite a few problems of concern to the party and the people were omitted from plenum agendas. Many Central Committee members throughout their term of membership were unable to take part in debates or even submit proposals. Of course, all this also affected the question of the holding of all-party conferences.

[Question] Vasiliy Yakovlevich, what role can and should be played by the all-union conference convened at a crucial stage in the party's life from the point of view of elaborating subsequent onward steps in restructuring?

[Bondar] This is indeed a decisive stage in the party's life at present. [paragraph continues]

It is necessary to further improve the machinery for forming the party's leading organs, monitoring their activity and the work of cadres, and developing openness, criticism, and self-criticism.... In this context the all-union party conference, which the CPSU Central Committee Plenum has deemed it expedient to hold should also be of great significance. I believe that it will be an event of major political importance not only for the party. We remember from history, M.S. Gorbachev stressed at the plenum, more than one conference which at the crucial stages helped us to see new ways and means of achieving our set goals and which resolved problems which went far beyond the limits of the merely tactical.

It is proposed to hold an all-union party conference in 1988. Crucial, fundamental questions of restructuring may be discussed there: the course of implementing the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, the results of the first half of the 5-year plan, questions of the further democratization of society's life, and the improvement of the CPSU's activity within the party, including the procedure for forming elective party organs. The all-union party conference will give fresh impetus to the work of restructuring by the party and all its organs.

PRAVDA UKRAINY ON SHCHERBITSKIY SPEECH AT PLENUM

AU051530 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 29 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "Gathering Experience in Restructuring -- A Discussion in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The principled and frank exchange of views on deepening restructuring and improvements in cadre work, which took place at the recent Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, continued on 25 March during a discussion held by Central Committee Politburo members and candidate members, obkom first secretaries, and department chiefs in the Central Committee. The discussion participants examined everything new that has emerged in the methods of party leadership and management since the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Comittee January 1987 Plenum.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee secretary, called the attention of the audience to some questions concerning perfection in the work style of party committees, the intensification of ideopolitical and internationalist education, and tackled the concrete tasks to compensate for the arrears incurred since the beginning of the year in industrial production, in construction, and in freight transportation.

It was emphasized that first of all obkom first secretaries, party committee bureau members, Central Committee departments, and primarily the Organizational Party Work Department, should draw the strictest conclusions from everything that occurred in Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, and Lvov Obkoms. To prevent such, one could say, extraordinary events, each obkom has to scrutinize the situation in the bureau, has to hold frank discussions with bureau members on the style and methods of work, and on the ethics of behavior. It is important to create everywhere and to maintain constantly an atmosphere of authentic, and not only ostentatious, collectiveness. Identical work has to be carried out in gorkom and raykom bureaus. Wherever necessary, steps have to be taken to improve the situation. Attention was called to the importance of cultivating in each party functionary such qualities as attentiveness to people, modesty, accessibility, and the ability to foresee political consequences of adopted decisions.

It is highly important to boost the role of party committees and particularly of bureau members. This is not an honorary distinction, but a great party responsibility and job. The bureau should execute the will of the corresponding oblast, city or rayon party committee. The party apparatus is called upon to translate into reality the decisions of elective bodies, and not to place itself above them, not to command. First secretaries must more frequently consult members of elective bodies, must arrange the things in such a way as to most actively engage them in the party committee's work. This has to be done at all levels -- from a raykom to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. It is esssential to boost the role and to improve the practice of holding party committee plenums, and to make better use of them for control "from below."

In dealing with issues concerning ideoeducational work, V.V. Shcherbitskiy noted that, in recent times, subversive centers abroad had focused their subversive ideological actions on questions connected with nationality relations and religion, trying to make use of any defects or omissions in the internationalist and patriotic education of the population and particularly of the younger generation. This obligates party committees to assume the most principled position wherever the attempts are being made to interpret past events and the role of individual historical personalities in a tendentious way, from non-class positions, and to overemphasize the "merits" of one's own nation.

It is essential to resolutely resist the manifestations of national narrow-mindedness, to foster friendship among representatives of all nations and nationalities living in the republic, to cultivate respect for their national feelings, and take fuller account of objective process of internationalization, of cultural interaction and mutual enriching. The internationalist education of people must always be kept by party committees in the center of their attention.

In questions concerning atheist work, one must not indulge in complacency. Party organizations are not always aware of the real situation, make insufficient use of an individual attitude, and poorly work among the families of the believers. National and religious feelings require a particular attitude, sensitiveness, and tactfulness. At the same time, any attempts to use these feelings for anti-social purposes must be resolutely nipped in the bud.

It is particularly important, it was noted during the discussion, to compensate for the arrears incurred in the fulfillment of the national economic plan for the 1st quarter of the current year. Acceleration implies primarily hastening the pace of economic growth. Last year, the republic ensured such an acceleration. The rates of increasing production and labor productivity exceeded the planned ones. This year, as noted at the Central Committee Plenum, the state of affairs in the economy has aroused great concern in the Central Committee Politburo and the republic's government. In commodity production, industry lags behind the plan by approximatey 0.8 days of work. In some branches, the arrears are significantly larger. An unfavorable situation has emerged in the machine building and the light industries, as well as in Nikolayev, Rovno, Volyn, Voroshilovgrad, and Cherkassy Oblasts. Poor progress has been made in saturating the market with commodities.

An unsatisfactory situation has also emerged in capital construction. In January and February, not even one single house was put into service in Kirovograd, Vinnitsa, Nikolayev or Zakarpatskaya Oblasts on the account of the 1st quarter plan. In Sumy and Zaporozhye Oblasts, serious arrears have been incurred in the construction of schools which are about to be commissioned; in Lvov, Khmelnitskiy, Crimean Oblasts and the city of Kiev, arrears have been incurred in the construction of hospitals; in Voroshilovgrad, Donetsk, and Khmelnitskiy Oblasts, in the construction of vocational and technical schools. [paragraph continues]

Obkoms are expected to take a sharp turn toward tasks stemming from the construction program. It is high time to put an end to the suspense [raskachka]. The current year's target is to put into operation 200 particularly important facilities, including 56 in the machine building complex. Their construction has to be taken under constant control.

The state of affairs in the national economy has been aggravated by the unsatisfactory performance of railroad transport. The main -- if not the only -- reserve for compensating for the arrears in transportation lies in a better utilization of cars and locomotives. Obkoms have to regard these tasks as the first and foremost ones.

The conclusion is unequivocal: It is necessary to increase exactingness to economic leaders, to mobilize party organizations and labor collectives, to distribute forces in a correct way, to prepare well for the Leninist subbotnik, and to ensure the maximal daily production.

The attention of the first secretaries was also called to the completing preparations for the spring field campaign, and to concrete steps which have to be taken to accomplish the task set by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum -- to ensure that the yield of grain planned for the current year is obtained to guarantee the fulfillment of the plan for grain deliveries to the state, and to fulfill the plans for stockbreeding. An increase in the overall grain yields has to be regarded as an objective for the entire organizational an political work, as well as for specialists. All possibilities are to be used for this purpose. The tasks have to be accomplished in a differentiated manner, depending on the conditions prevailing or emerging in the zone.

A number of obkom first secretaries exchanged their experiences in organizational and political work under the conditions of restructuring. The main idea shared by all speakers was that party committees had to take a sharp turn toward people and toward the matters in their real shape. Comrade G.I. Revenko, Kiev Obkom first secretary, told how the obkom was taking pains to induce party functionaries to pay more frequent visits to basic party organizations and labor collectives. The number of sessions and conferences, as well as the amount of information requested from the field, have been reduced. A thorough examination of people, openness in promotions, and accounts systematically rendered to collectives by leaders have become a rule in cadre work. To increase the responsibility of cadres, the obkom bureau confirms references made for leading functionaries on the basis of opinions given by basic party organizations and labor collectives. The democratic forms of cadre work have also been more widely used in other oblasts.

In Cherkassy Oblast, Comrade I.K. Lutak, obkom first secretary said, prior to promoting a functionary, his primary party organization and collectives are consulted without fail on whether he is capable of ensuring the sector for which he is recommended. Before the election of a number of rayispolkom chairmen, the local press published the names of candidates for these posts. Party functionaries are also being induced to spend more time among people, and not in armchairs.

Comrade A.N. Girenko, Kherson Obkom first secretary, gave an account of the work carried out by party organizations to enhance criticism and self-criticism. The obkom held a plenum to examine a report rendered by the bureau. Quite a few remarks were levelled at obkom secretaries, including the first secretary. It has been accepted that everyone submitted to criticism must report at the plenum on the elimination of the shortcomings. The oblispolkom delivered an accountability report at a session. The theses of the report were published in advance of the press. If there are no persons remaining inaccessible for criticism, for control from below, what occurred in Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, and Lvov Obkoms will not be repeated.

In Poltava Oblast, as Comrade F.T. Morgun noted, principled talks practiced by obkom bureau members with gorkom, raykom secretaries, and other functionaries, as well as seminars held on practical issues, have also produced rather good results.

Comrade L.I. Palazhchenko said that, after his election to the post of Chernigov Obkom first secretary, in the aspiration to improve the situation as soon as possible, he committed a number of errors. I have been corrected, he said. The correction was painful, but fair. The objective of our present efforts is to induce each party functionary to teach people and to learn himself, to accept a concrete job, ever if it is an insignificant one. The oblast is taking pains to reinforce cadres with fresh forces. Leading functionaries of the oblast and the rayon levels visited, in a number of villages, each family, inquired about the needs of people, primarily of war and labor veterans, and rendered assistance wherever necessary.

Important questions concerning oblasts socioeconomic development were posed by Comrdes A.P. Nochevkin, N.I. Samilyk, and L.G. Sharayev, respective obkom first secretaries in Odessa, Kirovograd, and Nikolayev. They said in particular that machine building enterprises worked poorly. In this field, the main obstacle is lack of coordination between the plans and material-technical supplies, and the failure to ensure smooth deliveries along the line of cooperation. Culpable of the latter are first of all machine building ministries. To increase influence on the activity of Odessa Oblast enterprises, a director's council, an information and propaganda center have been set up, and the activity of the obkom's council for promoting scientific-technological progress has been invigorated. Concrete proposals were made to intensify the struggle against moonshining and to amend legislation to this effect.

Questions concerning switching over to full economic accountability and autonomous financing in the agrarian sector were discussed. The need was noted for intensifying the economic training of cadres.

Much attention was paid to the growing role of soviets, to the development of the social sphere, to housing construction, particularly with the application of direct labor method, to the gasification of localities, to improvements in health services and in food supplies to the population, in the quality of bread and other foodstuffs. Comrade V.S. Shevchenko, Ukrainian Comunist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman; and Comrades B.V. Kachura and I.A. Mozgovoy, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo members and secretaries, shared their ideas regarding these questions.

Participating in the discussion were Comrades I.A. Gerasimov, Yu.N. Yelchenko, V.P. Mironov, V.A. Sologub, A.A. Titarenko, S.I. Gurenko, V.D. Kryuchkov, S.N. Mukha, and Ya. P. Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo members and candidate members; and Comrade V.S. Babichev, chief of the Organizational Party Work Department in the CPSU Central Committee.

TAJIKISTAN: KURGAN-TYUBE LEADERS 'UNSATISFACTORY'

LD021413 Dushanbe Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] The Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee has examined the matter of work on strengthening discipline, overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism and struggling against nonlabor or incomes in the city of Kurgan-Tyube.

The resolution adopted notes that party, soviet, Komsomol, (?economic) and law enforcement bodies in the city of Kurgan-Tyube have not the drawn necessary conclusions from the directives of the CPSU Central Committee regarding decisive measures of strengthening discipline, establishing order and intensifying the struggle against drunkenness and nonlabor incomes.

Having satisfied themselves with initial and partial results, they then relaxed work in this direction. They manifest complacency and self-satisfaction. The gorkom and gorispolkom have not widened and deepened the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism. Measures taken by many party organizations, labor collectives, public organizations and law enforcement bodies are of a formalistic nature. They are not detailed and long-term work. Domestic drunkenness among young people is widespread. Labor collectives have not properly joined in the campaign to establish an abstinent way of life. The work of commissions and primary organizations of the sobriety society has in fact been conducted on a laissez-faire basis [pushchena na samotek]. There have been cases of collective drinking parties at work places. The work of clubs and sport organizations in organizing adequate recreation for working people is being improved at an extremely slow pace.

Nothing has been done to practically improve the work of the pharmacy services, strengthening their material base and staffing them with qualified personnel.

The party, soviet, economic, law enforcement bodies and public organizations have approached without due responsibility the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee resolution on measures for an intensified struggle against nonlabor incomes. They have not adopted comprehensive measures to block all channels and loopholes for nonlabor incomes. The study of causes and conditions resulting in theft and bad management has been inadequately conducted.

The Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee has found unsatisfactory the work of strengthening discipline, overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism and struggling against nonlabor incomes in the city of Kurgan-Tyube.

The Kurgan-Tyube Gorkom, its bureau and the gorispolkom have been told of unprincipledness in implementing the CPSU Central Committee resolutions regarding strengthening of discipline and struggle against drunkenness, alcoholism and nonlabor incomes and of not appreciating the importance of this work. They were charged with specific measures based on the detailed and critical analysis of insufficient implementation of the party decisions on these matters, which should secure within a 2-month period the formulation and implementation of specific steps toward intensfying labor discipline in every labor collective, establishing a healthy, sober way of life and eradicating nonlabor incomes which are alien to the nature of socialism.

Kurgan-Tyube Obkom [as heard] was recommended to intensify exactingness toward party, soviet and economic bodies regarding unconditional fulfillment of party decisions and to examine the matter of responsibility of those persons who are guilty of unsatisfactory fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee resolutions on the above matters in the city of Kurgan-Tyube.

YAKOVLEV ON EMIGRES' LETTER IN FRENCH PAPER

PM021600 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 13, 29 Mar 87 pp 10-11

[Feature comprising reprint of letter to Paris LE FIGARO, "reply" by Yegor Yakovlev under the headline: "Lost Illusions and the Logic of Struggle"; first three grafs are unattributed introduction]

[Text] The so-called International of Resistance emerged several years ago. It was formed by representatives of various emigre circles from several socialist countries and counterrevolutionary groups from Angola, Kampuchea, Afghanistan and Nicaraguan contras.

Among its members are also several people who left the Soviet Union at different times and for different motives. While some of them have long been involved in anti-Soviet activities, others have not been too ostentatious in their enmity towards our country and the Soviet government. Anyway, ten people have identified themselves with a letter quoted and played up by reactionaries in the West. The letter has been signed by V. Aksenov, V. Bukovskiy, A. and O. Zinovyev, E. Kuznetsov, Yu. Lyubimov, V. Maksimov, E. Neizvestnyy, Yu. Orlov, L. Plyushch.

In reproducing the letter as it appeared in the French LE FIGARO, the editorial board does not think it needs some special comment, for it speaks for itself. However, it is a letter and it should be replied to.

Let Gorbachev Give Us Proof [subhead introducing text of letter]

The avalanche of news from Moscow causes of late amazement and even bewilderment among many decent people both in the East and in the West: has a turning point in our history, of which one could only dream, really been reached where an end will be put to repression, poverty, and international brigandage? Or is it another temporary thaw, a tactical retreat before another offensive, in Lenin's definition used in 1921?

As a matter of fact, some outstanding human rights champions have been freed from jails and camps, and have returned from exile, to our great joy. Nevertheless, although we voice satisfaction at these facts, we cannot help noting that the selective nature of the pardons has been intended to produce a maximum effect at the price of minimal concessions. If the Soviet leaders have truly, as they claim, changed their stand on the human rights issue, if they have decided to renounce suppression as a form of control over free-thinking in the Soviet Union, why have they not then pardoned all the prisoners of conscience, instead of making the pleasure last a whole year and freeing in dribs and drabs the most noted of them?

Why haven't we heard anything about an unconditional condemnation of psychiatric repression, the most monstrous of all forced methods used in the USSR? Why is there no improvement in emigration, which was regarded as admissible even by the late "reactionary" Brezhnev?

Afghanistan and Ourselves [subhead]

More or less similar "changes" and "thaws" can also be observed in other spheres of Soviet life. They give many causes for mistrust. For example, the recognition by the Soviet leaders of a need for radical economic reforms is an indisputable improvement.

Naturally, we approve of the Soviet leaders' desire to pull out the troops from Afghanistan, where our young compatriots have to take part in the killing of the civilian population. However, the method proposed by the Soviet government of "settling" the problem serves only to increase the doubts as to the sincerity of their intentions. If they really want the war stopped, why don't they pull out all the troops at once, without setting preliminary conditions and dragging out time limits? If it is desired that a "settlement of the Afghan problem" should be reached through political means, why do they oppose the holding of free and fair elections with strict international supervision? Elections of this kind were successfully held in Zimbabwe and comparatively recently in similar conditions in El Salvador.

For Genuine Glasnost [subhead]

The new Soviet policy of glasnost, openness and "cultural thaw" perhaps causes the greatest confusion and anxiety.

Glasnost essentially implies some public discussion where everybody can take part without fearing reprisals irrespective of the views expressed. Glasnost should include both the right to receive information and the right to spread information because both are inseparably linked in the single process of society's control over the government. Rather than the official campaign of criticism of Soviet reality there should be free access to copying equipment to promote greater glasnost as we understand it. If the Soviet leaders wish to enjoy trust among the public, it is necessary for them to recognize at least several independent publishers not subject to Party control. In this connection the publication of this letter in the Soviet press would be the most convincing proof of the sincerity of pronouncements about glasnost.

We are happy to state that such outstanding writers as Gunnilev Nabokov have been "exonerated posthumously" and that their books will at last become officially accessible to readers in our country. The others, less "lucky" late authors still wait in line for their turn which will apparently arrive on the occasion of yet another "cultural thaw". Anyhow, this privilege has been granted exclusively to the dead who can neither say nor do anything unexpected. This perhaps explains the special interest of the Soviet authorities in late celebrities whose remains they seek to "return back home" contrary to their wishes expressed when they were living (Shalyapin, Tarkovskiy).

If They Want Us To Return [subhead]

We have learned that Soviet representatives have contacted some noted cultural personalities in emigration, offering that they should return "home", as if they were prodigal children, and promising that the "past will be forgotten". The Soviet authorities are obviously unable to realize yet that emigrating is not the result of some tragic misunderstanding, but the result of deep-going differences with the regime incapable of showing respect for freedom of creative work. The past can be forgotten, but how can the ubiquitous control by the Party be forgotten, especially after you have inhaled a bit of the air of freedom? This cannot be substituted by the Order of Lenin.

Who, for example, prevents them from publishing our books, making our recordings, screening our films and producing our plays, exhibiting our pictures and sculptures? Why then have they not started by doing just this instead of having promised their "forgiveness", which nobody wants? All they are asked to do is to step a little aside and allow the viewers, listeners and readers in the USSR to choose whichever they like.

Then and only then will we be able to have open dialogue with the authorities instead of questionable negotiations on the backstairs.

Let's imagine for a moment that Gorbachev's boldest proposals on freer elections inside the Party are realized. This "leap forward" would only bring us a bit closer to the position of the black population of South Africa. Our "whites" would at least have free elections for themselves, though they only account for seven per cent of the population.

Ideology Barrier [subhead]

If they wish to seriously have "radical changes" in the Soviet system, they should review the prevailing ideology to begin with. Without this no deep-going and long-range change could and will ever take place in the Soviet Union. Ideology is the real core of the Soviet system which does not permit the country to deviate too far and for too long at a time. If the final objectives and the basic principles are not to be questioned, the long-range strategy becomes preordained and what is left to the leaders boils down to solving only tactical problems. They can proclaim "freeze" or "thaw", while they themselves cannot have a "summer". They would not be able to live in peace either with their own nation or with their neighbours while the ruling ideology negates the very possibility of "peace with the class enemy". How can they have "peaceful coexistence" with the "bourgeois" would if they set the objective of "burying" this world? Can one count on real "detente" if "detente does not in any way mean, and cannot mean, negation of the laws of class struggle"? As a result, there is neither peace nor war, there is only a "struggle for peace" which follows the immutable law of Soviet support for "all forces of socialism, progress and national liberation".

As long as this "historic struggle between the two worlds" continues, no one has the right to simply go about his or her business. The population is mobilized, as it were, in order that fresh detachments of ideological fighters should rise up. This general mobilization recognizes neither the right to neutrality nor the right to refusal on the grounds of one's conscience because "he who isn't with us, is against us". Even a civilian deserter is jurdically equated to a serviceman who goes over to the enemy's side during military actions (Criminal Code, Part III, Art. 4). The wish to emigrate is thus viewed as high treason, while those permitted to travel abroad are carefully selected form among the most reliable persons as if they were scouts being sent over behind enemy lines.

If they really wish to make a new page in our history, they should stop using the tragedy of our people in World War II for propaganda purposes, take out of the school curricula the disturbing military and patriotic classes which have grown to be obligatory in all Soviet schools and which can only compare with Hitler Jugend drills, and put an end to the militarization of Soviet society. The historical truth about the crimes committed by the Soviet regime should be restored.

Regime's Illness [subhead]

How can one expect a surge of enthusiasm in connection with the permission of "individual labour activity", especially in agriculture, if the "collectivization" and the destruction of ten million peasants have not been still condemned by the Party which holds power? Or, speaking about "glasnost", how can one hope for this innovation to be taken seriously if the occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968 has still not been condemned as an international crime? Because, in the final analysis the "Prague spring" was, if anything, a period of "glasnost".

Those are only two random examples. But they go to show that to reconcile the people with the government it is not enough to release from prison several dozen people put there without any guilt. The Soviet Union is seriously ill. The illness has been dragging on for so long that even the country's leaders have been forced to break with the 70-year-old tradition of silence - they need the trust of the people in the USSR, the trust of the entire world. But before everything else they themselves have to learn to trust the people and the world. To learn how to put sufficient trust in the public, so as to recognize their responsibility before the International Court at The Hague, before the court of human rights in Strasbourg, and so that the victims could on behalf of public prosecution claim damages incurred in a disaster like the one at Chernobyl. They should become equals among equals rather than protagonists of the happy future.

Everyone, even fools, can plainly see today that if the 70-year-long rule with the aid of "the most progressive teaching" has brought to ruin one of the Earth's richest countries, the teaching is false. And if, as Gorbachev admits, there has not been a single leader after Lenin who could have made this teaching work, is it not time to try something else? Was it not Lenin himself who constantly repeated that practice was the highest criterion of theory? Can the threadbare theory stand up to today's practice? That's the question. And if not, what will happen then? [letter ends]

To The Point of Absurdity [subhead introducing reply by Yegor Yakovlev]

Vasility Aksenov and I were strolling around Moscow one autumnal afternoon till late in the evening. We talked and hoped. For what? For the time which has finally arrived and which Vasiliy now speaks accusingly of Ernst Neizvestnyy's studio on a side street near Sretenka. In one movement of his hand the sculptor was trying to capture the image of Prometheus breaking the chains. He was drawing the favourite character of Karl Marx for his anniversary and the picture was to appear on the front cover of the magazine ZHURNALIST. Neizvestnyy was out to depict the joy of one man getting his freedom. He tore up and rejected many drawings before the final drawing was born. Today Neizvestnyy is totally unable to share his compatriots' joy, to understand the people who say: We have reached the perestroyka through much pain. I think back about my meeting with Vladimir Maksimov on Strastnoy Boulevard. He was always muttering something about faith, the tsar and the homeland, and bemoaning the timeless death of the Romanovs. At the time, I admit, I regarded it as a sick fad of an angry and disturbed person. And today? It's Yuriy Lyubimov who puts his name next to Maksimov's Meeting in Zamoskvorechye, once they wrote a manifesto concerning a revolutionary theatre. No, the Taganka Theatre hadn't become real yet. And the very thought of setting up the theatre there seemed wild to Lyubimov: "It's too far away from everything. Who would want to travel that far?" But as regards his desire to set up a theatre similar to those that appeared in the 1920s -- primarily like Meyerkhold's theatre -- this desire was firm. Today the creator of a revolutionary theatre finds himself among Maksimov's coauthors.

And all of them who had battled for the democratization of our society now malign the self-same democratization, bemoan its demise before it got under way. Having wasted a terrific amount of words to prove the need for changes, they set to work trying to reduce the changes to absurdity as soon as the changes started.

What went awry? Everything got confused? Just the opposite: everything has become clear.

Not so long ago I, with many other people, thought that surely some of them would come back. Not because of official invitations, but in answer to the call of their conscience since the whole nation has gone to work to rearrange our life. Actors of the Taganka Theatre have telephoned Lyubimov of their own accord every night to America (think of their small pay) and tried to persuade him that he was wanted at the theatre. As for him, he was arrogant and driving hard bargains. Today on the eve of his 70th birthday, he's like a chunk of bread (to use a Russian phrase) cut off the loaf, by his own efforts.

Responding to one of the devotees of NOVYY MIR magazine who said: "sooner or later censorship will be dropped and that will be the time for our real work, Aleksandr Trifonovich," Tvardovskiy said not without enmity: "By that time we may find ourselves on opposite sides of the barricade. We are only united against today's foolishness."

Tvardovskiy's words now sound as a prediction of the inevitable: a scathing truth devoid of all sentimentality, all predilections of a friend.

Freedom of choice tests any individual. Those ten who were not threatened were free to decide. They have chosen the opposite side of the barricade.

Away from your own nation for a long time, it is hard to live in the same dimensions as your compatriots, for you lose a sense of time. The authors of the letter have lost it. While they seem to have intended to write about the present, every line speaks about the past.

Their concern is, for example, copying equipment. What kind of copying equipment do they have in mind? Are they still prisoners to "samizdat"? Today you have hardly time to read things they used to print in secret and which now appear in magazines and in book form. They are discoursing about "independent publishers" as being impossible, while the Soviet Writers Union is considering proposals on establishing cooperative publishing houses. One of the first such houses called "Vest" is being set up with Veniamin Kaverin's and Eduardas Mechelaytis' sponsorship. Where are those people who favour "public discussion where everybody can take part without fearing reprisals irrespective of the views expressed"? If they had not been afraid, they could have been among those who ae today discussing, sponsoring and setting up. No, they are among those who are hurling accusations from afar. And they imagine that their letter is a kind of unimaginable, improbable, inadmissible candidness which, if published in the Soviet press, "would be the most convincing proof of the sincerity of the drive for glasnost". We have published the letter. What's next?

Zero! As far as they are concerned, everything has remained as it was. Here's what Alexander Herzen wrote about emigres; "Not a single step forward at that. Like the clock of Versailles, they show the same hour, the hour when the king died... and like the Versailles clock, they forgot to advance these people forward after the death of Louis XV."

Think of the insular, personality-cult type of thinking of someone who goes and urges proof from one person -- even if he holds the most responsible office and today enjoys unprecedented recognition throughout the world -- that the future will be better for a great power. For the benefit of those who would like to have a reputation as being "fathers of Russian democracy" we can repeat an idea expressed repeatedly by Mikhail Gorbachev: One person or a group of persons in our society cannot be possessors of the ultimate truth. The same idea can be reiterated regarding the forces of the reorganization. [paragraph continues]

It depends on us all that the "thaw" will become "summer" (to use the words from the letter) or, to use our language, that we move from the "revolution of expectation" to a revolutionary reconstruction, that we change the energy of plans into an energy of deeds.

There is only one guarantee that there will not be a repeat of the mistakes which have cost us so dearly: a consistent and sweeping democratization. And we are following this road as we keep in mind: the more democracy we have, the more socialism there will be. This is primarily the point where we differ with the letter's authors. In the final analysis, wavering in what they want they conceal behind the screen of private suggestions their global intentions to deny our society any historical prospects by questioning its "goals and basic principles".

Strikingly, the present critics of Lenin who reel off commonplaces about revolutionary theory being obsolete thus show how archaic their thinking is. They speak about Lenin as of a superhuman because they assume that a man of vision who was not destined for more than fifty years now to live, work and make decisions together with us was responsible for everything. Was everything done yesterday and has it been implemented today in the way Lenin advised and insisted on? As we turn to his legacy today we have a chance to progress farther than Lenin did. Yes, farther: from the height of our time it is possible to assess the essence of past contradictions and the sense of decisions made in the past. Besides, we are especially free of what disturbed Lenin: besides laws there also exists a standard of culture which is not subject to any law.

The 280-million people live their own life whatever its quality, but they are busy building their future. And, just imagine, they never suspected until today that several of their compatriots stationed far away want for themselves some special guarantees, approve of "the Soviet leaders' desires" or they see "many causes for mistrust". They dictate to us how the policy of glasnost should be conducted, or say that "the prevailing ideology" should be reviewed to begin with, or ponder whether it is worthwhile "to openly dialogue with the authorities", without so much as finding out if the "authorities" wish that while they are guessing about what things are necessary "to reconcile the people with the government".

What they do not think about is how to find their way back to their own people. They left the country at not the best of times. Enjoying as they say "the air of freedom" they feel disturbed, you see, about the air in Moscow.... I admit that I did not know from the entire history of Russian emigres that life in another country was sweeter to someone than life at home, that someone would not like to jump at the very first chance to return.

Among some other phrases in the letter there is this: "If they really wish to make a new page in our history, they should," etc. But who are "they"? And, more importantly, what do they mean by "our history"? With our position regarding our latest history you have nothing to do with it.

Once some of the authors of the letter had some credit for promoting public awareness and they still are not denied it. But why puff up your cheeks and stand on your toes to appear larger than life? Conceit truly destroys talent even faster than bans. Take the letter which is written in an exceptionally mediocre way.

Each of the signatories is a professional in their trades and each knows how important to be professional. [paragrph continues]

Yet they drag amateurism into politics without being ashamed of the homespun quality of their judgements. They wonder why not pull out of Afghanistan "all the troops at once without setting preliminary conditions and dragging out time limits". As simple as that: forget all about those whom we were trying to help. Leave, caring nothing about the consequences. No, this is not good politics. Well, they are only well aware of that themselves. Yet they deliberately lump everything together: the struggle for peace and Tarkovskiy's death, the 1968 events and elections in El Salvador, the military and patriotic classes at schools and the Criminal Code. To top off the mixed bag they say that the democratization "would only bring us a bit closer to the position of the black population of South Africa". Critic Belinskiy was right saying in his letter to Gogol: "It's a great truth that when a person gives himself fully to lying, reason and talent take leave of him."

What worries the writers of the letter? They are worried by having less and less ground to stand on. Once they could, for example, make references to Sakharov, who had been exiled to Gorkiy. Today Sakharov thinks he'd rather spend some time there on occasion because the endless visitors to his Moscow home prevent him from concentrating on his work. Once they spoke about how personal initiative was stifled -- now it is welcome. Once avant-garde artists were discouraged and you could complain till your lungs hurt. Now they have one exhibition after another. At this rate some folks (in the West) are bound to lose their jobs!

But what kind of job it is if its basis is the old immoral principle: the worse, the better? The process under way in the Soviet Union will come to nought and the failure will become a huge national tragedy. The writers of the letter will then rub their hands with satisfaction. They are not averse to getting both self-assertion and self-justification in others' misfortune. Supplicants for evil!

We've got enough to do as it is without all those voices; we should struggle for the perestroyka, the perestroyka should be defended. And people are doing just this and do not think much of their own comforts or bearing old grudges.

"Do we need this bitter memory of the past? We won't get anywhere if we forget. We run the risk of once again becoming the victims of tragic errors and undigested experience," critic Vladimir Lakshin wrote in MN. Banished once from his favourite job at NOVYY-MIR, he has grown accustomed to unhurried work on articles and books meant for publication. And despite that he agreed to become a deputy editor-in-chief of the magazine ZNAMYA. People should both remember the past and try to overcome it.

How much energy, but mainly time, has been exacted from Elem Klimov: it took so many years for his films to be released. Now seems to be just the right time to be making films. Instead, he spends most of his time at the Film Makers Union having agreed to take over as its chairman. "I'm speaking about new regulations that are to legitimize the new conditions in which the cinema will be able to breathe and develop more freely," he told our correspondent.

Nikolay Gubenko has become famous of late through his films. Instead of going on in film making, he comes to the Taganka Theatre, having been elected its chief director by the actors. "I'm fully aware that I am no stage director. But apparently the company wants me as some binding element or as the personification of certain values the Taganka has been losing in recent years," Gubenko said in an interview to MN.

"There are historical combinations constantly pervading the entire civic life of each person and which make the citizen obliged to give up a certain share of his or her ambitions in order to make possible the materialization of his or her other ambitions which are more lofty and important for society." This was written by a philosopher and publicist, a man who was at the head of the most progressive magazines of his time, a man who spent nearly two years in solitary confinement and twenty years doing penal servitude in exile. Anyway, the writers of the letter would hardly acknowledge his words because he was Chernyshevskiy, a revolutionary democrat.

BOOK TRADE TO 'AVOID EXTREMES' IN NEW PUBLISHING

PM031134 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Apr 87

[Interview with M.F. Nenashev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, by Ye. Belostotskaya: "Wealth of Goodness and Wisdom" under the rubric: "Books and Us"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Belostotskaya] How is the destiny of previously unpublished outstanding works of our literature shaping up?

[Nenashev] Together with the Writers Union we intend literally in the very near future to clearly define a publication program for these books. Here it is necessary to avoid extremes and display a principled approach. Periodicals are now publishing Nabokov, but for the time being we will take a close look at these publications: The future will show whether it is necessary to publish his books and what to include in them. In the very near future we will be publishing books which have already stood the test of time: works by Leonid Andreyev, Andrey Belyy, and Maksimilian Voloshin and collections of the works of Pasternak and Bulgakov. At the end of the year we will begin publishing Klyuchevskiy and then Solovyev, and we are thinking of publishing Karamzin. This year we will be bringing out Vysotskiy's songs in a mass edition, and next year his selected poems.

Reports of the publication of Klyuchevskiy and Solovyev have caused a great stir. There is something to reflect on here. Klyuchevskiy's collected works run to 9 volumes and Solovyev's to 18. Many people consider print runs of 100,000 and 150,000 copies plainly insufficient. People have been heard to ask: Why not 500,000 copies, why not a million? We have decided on a certain increase in the print run -- we may perhaps publish 200,000. [passage omitted]

FILM INDUSTRY CHIEF ON OVERCOMING 'RESISTANCE'

LD162017 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- Describing the relations between the USSR State Committee for Cinematography and the USSR Film-Makers' Union, Aleksandr Kamshalov, head of the committee, said in a TASS interview: "We began to really work together for the first time in many years".

"In creative work pressure 'from above' does not and cannot bring good results. This is why it was decided to leave all the work and all the responsibility for the creation of films to studios. They will be freed from unnecessary tutelage and will be given independence in the solution of their creative problems", Kamshalov said.

He pointed out that after dividing responsibilities with the film-makers' union, the USSR State Committee for Cinematography would be able to pay more attention to major problems of film-making, specifically, to forecast the main directions of the development of the cinema art, to coordinate the work of film studios (there are 39 of them in this country), to organize a system of film distribution and to train specialists for the branch.

The committee will retain the right to let films out onto the screen. In case of a difference of opinions or a conflict the future of the film will be decided jointly by the Collegium of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography and the Board of the Film-Makers' union.

"We are going to introduce in film-making a close interrelationship between the state and the public organizations," Kamshalov said further. "Even today not a single important appointment in the committee or in studios is done without the approval of the union. By our joint decision, from now on creative councils of a number of studios and associations will be elected and not appointed as before.

"This is also true of the leadership. Film director Emil Lotyanu was elected recently creative director of the Moldavian film studio. The prominent film-maker Frunze Dovlatyan was elected chairman of the board of the Armenian film studio and the film playwright Ramiz Fatalyev became director of the Azerbaijanian studio also by means of elections. Elections of a rector of the Institute of Cinematography will be held soon".

"We are jointly working at the drawing up of annual and long-term film production plans. Earlier it was the prerogative of the state committee. Today we are drawing up the plan for 1988 together with the film-makers' union. In April it will be discussed and approved at a joint session of the committee and the union's board".

"However, the development of reorganization in Soviet film-making is not smooth. From the very beginning we came across not only objective difficulties, but also the resistance of those who are losing something as a result of the reorganization or who are stubbornly upholding the outdated mode of bureaucratic thinking. Naturally, we shall overcome this resistance, but one should not think that it will be easy".

PRAVDA ON PUBLISHING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ANTHOLOGY

PM301142 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: " On Social Justice"]

[Text] An anthology entitled "K. Marx, F. Engels, and V.I. Lenin on Social Justice" ["K. Marks, F. Engels, V.I. Lenin o Sotsialnoy Spravedlivosti"] has been published. It includes extracts from the works of K. Marx, F. Engels, and V.I. Lenin offering a scientific interpretation of social justice and defining the ways and forms of its consistent implementation in the socialist society.

The anthology's materials make it possible to realize more profoundly that justice under socialism is a powerful motive force for the acceleration of social development. It holds a central place among the supreme values which urge the Soviet people on to new achievements and to the implementation of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

The book is published by the Political Literature Publishing House.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT FOR 4-6 APRIL

LD070235 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 4-6 April. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

4-5 Apr

No fileworthy items monitored

6 Apr

Azerbaijan. Mass cotton sowing started today. The area given over to wide-row sowing has been increased by 50 percent. This will substantially increase productivity and will enable the work to be completed in 8 to 10 days. (0800)

Because the spring field work is starting much later than usual, the farmers of Preddneprovye have decided to work around the clock to complete the spring crop sowing. They are putting floodlights on machinery. Some 700 combined units have been built which can carry out three presowing operations at the same time: cultivation, liquid fertilizing, and herbiciding. (1300)

BRIEFS

ARTIFICIAL RAIN IN UZBEKISTAN -- Artificial rain caused today by workers of a specialized unit of the Uzbek Directorate for Hydrometeorology and the Control of the Natural Environment has assisted irrigation workers in filling the (?Kochkomashskoye) reservoir in the Kashkadarya Oblast. A unique meteorological radar installation, capable not just of defining the extent and the height of the cumulus clouds but of displaying their structure on a screen, has thus started to operate. The new radar station enables specialists to calculate accurately the amount of moisture, together with the direction and the speed of movement of the clouds. With the benefit of this data, they now calculate the times at which special shells which cause rainfall should be launched. The first experiment has shown the calculations to have been absolutely correct. The rain fell in the right place. Unprecedented heavy rains have beset Uzbekistan this spring. They have been hampering the sowing campaign and making the soil excessively moist. It is a most important task to direct this water into the reservoirs in order for it to be used properly in the summer. Of course for the present it is impossible to take control over the elements completely, but the Uzbek scientists have taken the first step. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 6 Apr 87 LD]

ARMY PAPER ON PATRIOTISM, NATIONAL UNITY

PM061519 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Apr 87 First Edition pp 2-3

[Lieutenant General N. Shapalin article under the rubric "Combat Personnel: Loyalty to Duty": "Patriots, Internationalists"; passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] The 27th CPSU Congress named as the most important components of the Soviet Armed Forces' combat potential military skill, a high level of technical equipment, ideological staunchness, organization and discipline among personnel, and loyalty to their patriotic and international duty.

Without going into the details of all aspects of the dialectical interconnection and interdependence of these constituents of combat potential, let us say that servicemen's patriotic, internationalist consciousness and behavior are one of its most important qualitative dimensions and are at the heart of troop and naval forces' morale. It is precisely the human factor that strongly welds the components of combat potential together.

Heroic pages from history and the distant recesses of the people's memory bring us unfading images of loyalty to patriotic duty. But the feeling of patriotism acquired its true and most profound significance and class substance only with the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the creation of the world's first worker-peasant state, and the building of socialism.

"The patriotism of someone who would rather go hungry for 3 years than surrender Russia to foreigners is real patriotism, without which we would not have held out for 3 years. Without this patriotism we would not have achieved the defense of the Soviet Republic... This is the best revolutionary patriotism," V.I. Lenin said in December 1920 about the strength of Soviet patriotism.

The bright flame of patriotism burned with special force in Soviet people's hearts during the Great Patriotic War years. Our servicemen accomplished thousands of exploits in fighting in the name of the socialist motherland, in the name of victory over the hated enemy. Patriotism was the foundation, the chief source of Soviet people's expoits. Addressing a Komsomol meeting, Aleksandr Matrosov said: "I will fight the fascists for my homeland's freedom as long as my hands hold a weapon and as long as my heart beats." He kept his word and in battle covered with his chest the embrasure of an earth and timber pillbox, thereby setting an outstanding example of self-sacrifice in the name of victory, in the name of the motherland.

The Soviet motherland, the socialist homeland... These most lofty concepts for the Soviet person have always been associated with his patriotic duty. Concepts such as patriotism and human dignity are inseparable. It is very important to recall this truth today because the restructuring process is making special demands on everyone in terms of this human parameter. It is also making them on the motherland's defenders.

Military patriotic duty is a part of the Soviet person'e public duty and, interpreted in a practical way, it means, above all, readiness for the socialist homeland's armed defense and readiness to defend the motherland, as the military oath states, courageously, skillfully, with dignity and honor, not sparing his blood or his very life to achieve full victory over enemies. In all times the readiness and ability to defend the motherland have been the highest hallmark of the patriot and citizen.

Our filial attitude toward the Soviet motherland is filled with patriotic pride in our people's deeds. The Soviet people are pioneers on the roads of history. Our motherland is the motherland of the Great October Socialist Revolution, whose 70th anniversary we celebrate this year. Ours was the first country to realize socialism in practice. The Soviet serviceman has the unshakable pride of a citizen of the great socialist power.

Of course, this love, this devotion of the motherland's defenders to the socialist homeland and to the ideals of communism is not of a contemplative, "platonic" nature. The serviceman's patriotism is demonstrated not in words but in deeds directed to the homeland's glory, to its reliable defense.

Now that the process of restructuring and renewal is taking place in the country, gathering momentum, the patriotism of every Soviet person is manifested in his attitude to restructuring, in the weight of his practical contribution to developing society's socioeconomic development, and in the vigor with which he struggles against phenomena alien to socialism and helps to assert openness, truthfulness, and exactingness in our daily life. Being a patriot nowadays means, as M.S. Gorbachev said at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, "acting, acting, and acting again -- vigorously, boldly, creatively, competently!"

For servicemen daily military labor in the name of ensuring high combat readiness is a practical field for realizing the requirements of patriotic duty. While not being directly production labor, this labor is socially necessary and socially useful in the highest degree and an indispensable condition for the existence of the socialist society, our freedom and security, and peace on earth. It is precisely in creative, selfless military labor that servicemen's spiritual forces are materialized. The patriotism of their thoughts, feelings, will, and actions means new heights of combat skill, the fulfillment of socialist pledges in honor of the 70th anniversary of Great October, and strong military discipline.

Soviet servicemen display loyalty to their patriotic duty particularly graphically under complex, crucial, and sometimes even life-endangering conditions. There are very convincing examples of this. During the busiest days of eliminating the aftermath of the accident at the Chernobyl AES 20 people were needed to fulfill a particularly crucial assignment associated with risk and danger. When the commander of the sapper engineering subunit asked for volunteers to step forward, the entire formation did so, as happened repeatedly during the war.

Ours is a multinational country, and Soviet patriotism means the love of more than 100 nations and ethnic groups for their unified motherland and unified homeland -- the USSR. To whatever nation or ethnic group a Soviet person belongs, he is proud, above all, to be a citizen of the great USSR. The feelings of friendship and fraternity uniting all the USSR's nations and ethnic groups, the high standards of inter-nation contact, intolerance toward manifestations of nationalism and chauvinism -- these features of the Soviet way of life are increasingly strengthening and developing both in our country as a whole and in the Armed Forces. Our Army and Navy represent a combat alliance of all nationalities of the USSR. Working people of all the Soviet republics send their sons into the Army to learn military matters and stand guard over the Soviet motherland as a single, united combat family.

Our victory in the Great Patriotic War revealed most fully the great strength of the Leninist nationalities policy and of the peoples' unbreakable friendship. During those grim years the brother peoples rose side by side to the motherland's defense, fought heroically, and worked selflessly in the name of victory. In the famous Pavlov House in Stalingrad a handful of Soviet fighters beat off enemy attacks for 50 days. [paragraph continues]

In Sergeant Pavlov's small "garrison" there were three Russians, two Ukrainians, two Georgians, an Uzbek, a Kazakh, an Abkhaz, a Tajik, and a Tatar. United by a single goal -- the motherland's defense -- they held out and conquered.

Strong friendship, fraternity, and comradeship unite our multinational military collectives even today. They unite and help servicemen of different nationalities successfully to resolve the tasks facing subunits, units, and ships and to ensure through their military labor the reliable security of the unified multinational Soviet motherland.

Truly patriotic feelings are also truly internationalist. Soviet people's love for the socialist motherland is organically combined with a sense of fraternal solidarity with all fighters against social and national oppression.

What is internationalism? "Internationalism in practice," V.I. Lenin wrote, "means one thing, and one thing alone: Selfless work on developing the revolutionary movement and the revolutionary struggle in /one's own/ country and support (through propaganda and sympathy, and materially) for /that same struggle/, that same line, and /it alone/ in /all/ countries without exception."

History provides many examples of the loyalty of our people and their Army to their international duty. Our servicemen always fulfill their lofty international duty with honor and dignity. All the world's progressive forces remember that during the Great Patriotic War years 1 million Soviet servicemen gave their lives in the struggle to liberate the peoples enslaved by fascism. They remember and pay tribute to the Soviet serviceman -- the ardent internationalist.

Loyalty to international duty today means class solidarity with working people and servicemen of the fraternal socialist countries and loyalty to our obligations as an ally. The alliance of the socialist armies of the states united in the Warsaw Pact is of a truly internationalist, class nature. The great honor of defending sacred ideas with weapon in hand and realizing the peoples' international fraternity in practice has fallen to the lot of these armies' servicemen.

The Soviet Union gives disinterested assistance to the liberated countries which have embarked on a path of progressive development in defending their territorial integrity, independence, and sovereignty and strengthening their defense capability when they request assistance. The international assistance of the limited contingent of Soviet troops to the friendly Afghan people in defending their revolutionary gains is convincing confirmation of Soviet people's loyalty to the ideas of internationalism.

The fundamental basis of Soviet servicemen's patriotism and internationalism is our social and state system, our humanist ideology, our Soviet way of life. Patriotism and internationalism in their broad concept are the product of our socioeconomic system. But it would be wrong to think that patriotic, internationalist awareness takes shape of its own accord -- how we want and need it. No, its formation is not a spontaneous process that takes place on its own. Our servicemen's loyalty to their patriotic and international duty is the result of tremendous, comprehensive educational work by the party, the Soviet state, commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations of units and ships.

The shaping of a young man's patriotic and internationalist awareness begins long before military service: in the family, at school, in labor collectives. But service in the Army plays a special role in this. The years of military service are a particularly crucial time in a young person's life. A time when his world outlook, political convictions, moral qualities, and social feelings, including class internationalist ones, develop particularly actively.

The serviceman is tempered physically and matures morally in the ranks of the Armed Forces. All Army and Navy service, to use Lenin's words, develops heroic consciousness. When young servicemen are transferred to the reserve, they take this spirit of heroism and selflessness, cheerfulness, and strength to plants and factories, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, numerous construction sites around the country, and teaching auditoriums.

Among the troops and in the fleets rich experience of molding servicemen's loyalty to their patriotic and international duty has been accumulated. The theme of patriotism and internationalism occupies a leading place in political studies and lecture propaganda. Active use is made of thematic evenings, lecture cycles, movie festivals, spoken magazines, and sociopolitical readings devoted to our motherland, the struggle to implement the ideas and guidelines of the 27th party congress, and the Leninist ideas of the socialist homeland's defense.

All this positive experience is our extremely valuable asset. At the same time, we cannot say that we have no problems in patriotic and international education. We sometimes lack activeness in this work, militancy, and orientation toward a specific individual.

In what directions must work on strengthening patriotic and internationalist feelings in personnel be reorganized in the spirit of the demands of the times and be improved?

Servicemen's ideological, political, and philosophical tempering is the central, chief direction in molding patriotic and internationalist consciousness and behavior in them. A person's ideological commitment is his chief adviser as to how to act and which path to choose in a complex situation and the chief motive force behind a serviceman's conduct. Therefore it is necessary to make full use of the most diverse forms and methods of ideological and mass political work for the ideological and moral tempering of personnel, enhancing their political awareness, and developing in them a class approach when assessing particular events and phenomena. It is important here to direct one's efforts toward enhancing the quality of ideological work and eradicating the negative phenomena which have accumulated in it, primarily formalism and red tape.

Servicemen's patriotic and international education must be inseparably linked with developing in them vigilance and a class attitude toward imperialism as the source of war.

The best school for fostering loyalty to patriotic and international duty, developing a stable character, and tempering the will is daily combat training and military matters themselves without indulgences or oversimplification, with lessons and exercises approximating as closely as possible the conditions that take shape in real combat. Practical activity is, figuratively speaking, the chief test bed for trying out and honing the serviceman's strength of morale, his devotion to the cause, and his loyalty to duty.

It is quite obvious that what is now needed is greater persistence and greater responsibility on the part of commanders, political workers, and the public in shaping in servicemen a strong basis for heroic, courageous conduct in combat and in fostering and developing in them staunchness, boldness, combat skill, and the necessary physical qualities. Service itself and its conditions demand these qualities. Military labor means daily exertion of moral and physical strength, difficulties, and sometimes even danger. It cannot be otherwise.

I recently spent several days on the missile cruiser "Marshal Ustinov" and talked with Commander V. Veregin, the ship's commanding officer, and with other officers. Many interesting forms of work aimed at achieving high results in sailors' studies and service are used there. [paragraph continues]

The commander and his deputy for political affairs focus the crew's efforts on the chief thing -- mastering new hardware and weapons. They have rallied the collective through a profound understanding of patriotic and international duty and a sense of responsibility for high combat readiness. And this found concrete expression in a recent excellent missile firing exercise.

The process of actively shaping the patriotic and internationalist serviceman without fail includes fostering high discipline in him. Discipline and heroic-patriotic behavior are concomitant concepts. A.V. Lunacharskiy well remarked: "Our collective heroism is founded on maximum discipline." Only strong discipline and organization can maximally and efficiently direct the efforts of hundreds and thousands of people toward a single goal and ensure the most rational use of spiritual potential. Conscious self-discipline is particularly necessary in military labor. Precisely this constitutes the basis of the most difficult heroism -- the heroism of mass and everyday work. A highly disciplined serviceman always possesses the maximum mobilization potential and is more capable of accomplishing an exploit.

An extremely important constituent element in shaping servicemen's heroic-patroitic awareness is their moral and psychological orientation toward courageous, heroic behavior. An indispensable role in this is played by the education of personnel on the combat traditions of our people and their Armed Forces.

At the present stage in the development of our Army and Navy socialist traditions, including combat traditions, are the link between the past and the present. It is precisely with their assistance that the qualities and the experience which servicemen need today are passed on to new generations. Revolutionary, labor, and combat traditions are our weapon, our priceless asset. It is very important for our entire heroic past to pass through the deep-seated layers of every serviceman's consciousness and leave a trace there and to serve as a firm foundation for assessing ourselves, our conduct and actions. This is why, when propagandizing combat traditions, it is necessary to link them closely with the present day in the Army and the Navy and to show the heroism of present servicemen.

The role of military cadres -- commanders and political workers -- in restructuring and renewing all directions of work on the patriotic and international education of personnel can hardly be overestimated. It is their sacred duty to set subordinates a personal example of loyalty to their patriotic and international duty and of high standards in inter-nation contacts in all spheres of military life: the professional sphere, the sociopolitical sphere, and the sphere of everyday military life. By dint of their own authority and by dint of example, by arming themselves with modern methods of work with people, officers must create and maintain a healthy moral climate in subunits. Precisely they, through their daily educational activity among personnel, must try to ensure that in every one of them love for the motherland of October and for the land where he was born and grew up, and pride in the historic achievements of the world's first socialist state are combined with proletarian, socialist internationalism and with a sense of class solidarity with the working people of fraternal countries and with all who struggle against imperialism and for social progress and peace.

Our great motherland is approaching the 70th anniversary of October. Soviet people are greeting the upcoming anniversary in a situation of profound restructuring in all spheres of the life of society. In the course of restructuring we also adjust and renew ourselves and absorb and take into our cuture all the assets of the Soviet way of life. The most important of these assets is the loyalty of Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen to their patriotic and international duty. Loyalty that determines our thoughts and our actions.

VII.	WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
VIII.	SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT; contents include: International Affairs Inter-African Affairs Central Africa Burundi Cameroon Central African Republic Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon Rwanda Sao Tome & Principe Zaire East Africa Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Somalia Tanzania Uganda Indian Ocean Comoros Madagascar Mauritius Seychelles Southern Africa Angola Botswana Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia Republic of South Africa Reunion Swaziland Zambia Zimbabwe Western Africa Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Islands The Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Ivory Coast Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone Togo

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